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ARMY AIR MEDICS THE MOST DANGEROUS JOB IN THE WORLD
Selita Ebanks
VICTORIA'S SEXIEST SECRET
I DO... THE BRIDESMAID GET GREAT WEDDING SEX
JUNE 2010
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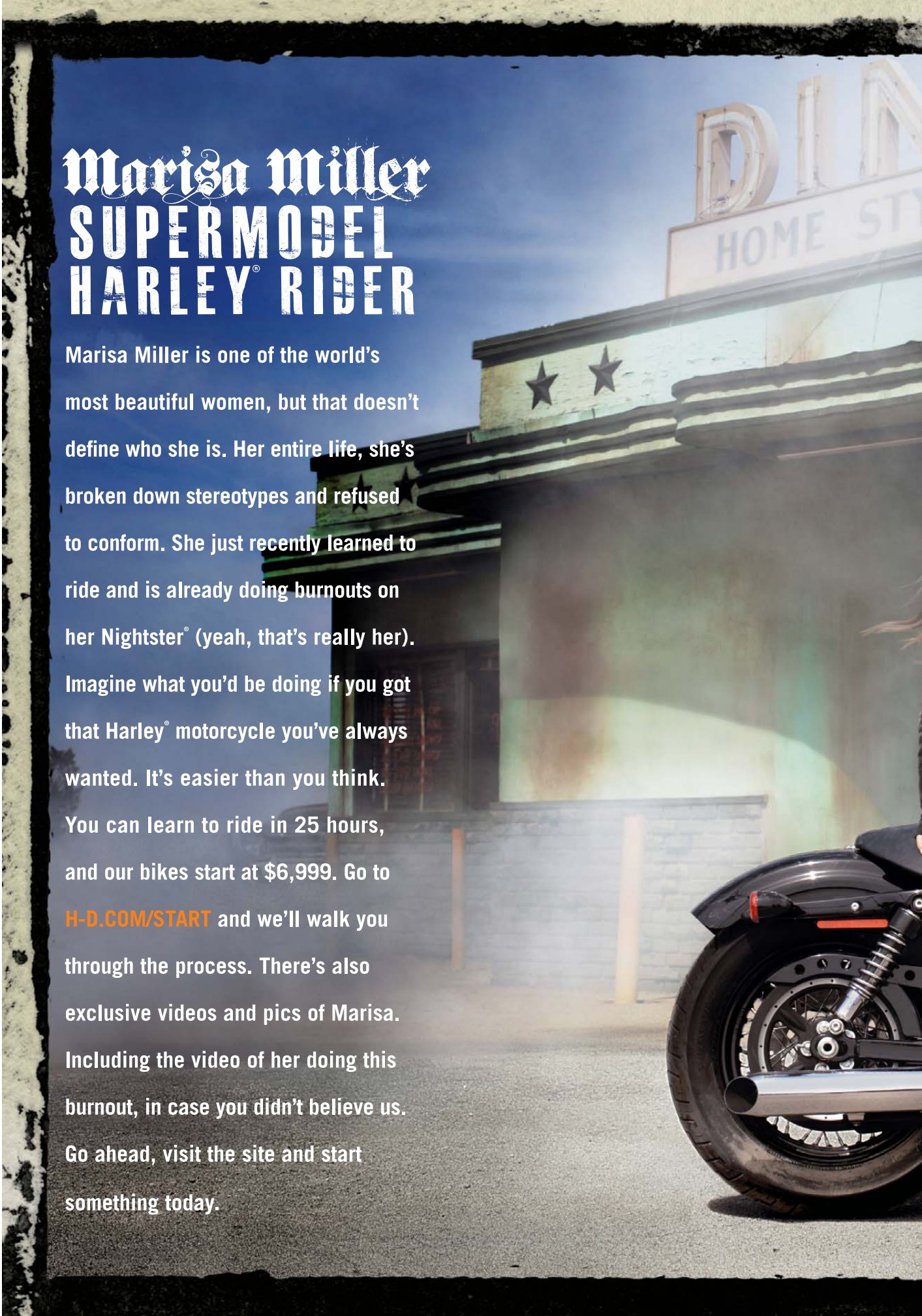

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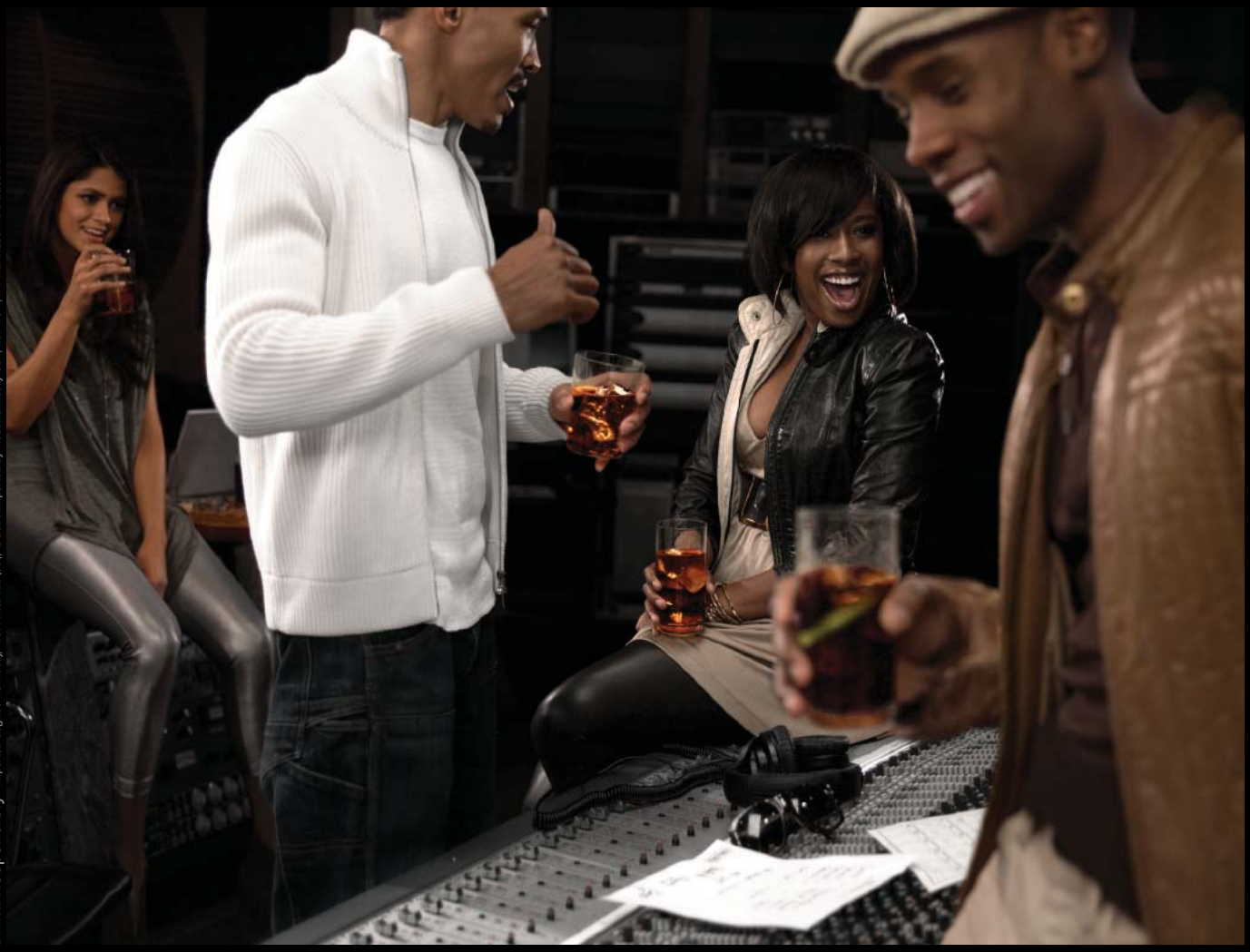

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MAXIM JUNE 2010

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Styling, Lysa Cooper/Brydges MacKinney; hair, Max Pinnell/Bumble & Bumble/See Management; makeup, Paul Innis/Warren-Tricomi Artist Management/Avon Cosmetics; Coco de Mer bra, Cosabella panties, Patricia Field leggings, Walter Steiger shoes, Ben-Amun jewelry. This page: Deborah Marquit lingerie, Coco de Mer bra, Walter Steiger shoes, Ben-Amun earrings.

PHOTOGRAPH BY CHRIS FORTUNA

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COSABELLA BUSTIER, CALVIN KLEIN PANTIES

PHOTOGRAPH BY CHRIS HEADS

maxim.com

The "D" stands for "Da-a-a-mn, this is a really comfortable sweater."

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE!

Can't get enough of Danica McKellar (p.88), better known as *The Wonder Years'* Winnie Cooper? Then head to Maxim.com for more hot shots and exclusive outtakes of the teenage dream girl turned math wizardess—it's as easy as pi (zing!).

App Attack!

PUT THE POWER OF MAXIM IN THE PALM OF YOUR HAND WITH OUR IPHONE APP.

Download a digital version of the June issue courtesy of Bite Sized Candy (Maxim.com/June2010).

Elsewhere on Maxim.com

GAMES

Come to us for video game reviews, previews, and gamer gab.

GEAR

We give you the rundown on the latest gizmos and tech you should be buying now. Consume!

GAGS

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BUILDING THE PERFECT WOMAN
Alice's new ID card is pretty, but bulky.

male bombed

THIS MONTH WE WERE INUNDATED WITH DUDE-LOVE FOR THE AWESOME ALICE EVE.

Eve Inspires Sinful Thoughts!

April's issue kicked ass. Alice Eve (the new, improved Jessica Simpson), an awesome sex survey, chats with Slash and Michael Douglas, and lots of timely baseball coverage. You guys rock—keep it up (so to speak).

Tom Dillon via e-mail

The rest of you jerks take a lesson from Tom here. He lavishes us with praise, and in return we canceled the live panther shipment to his home. Yes, we were planning to murder him with panthers. For no reason.

Lady Love

I would first like to join the millions of fans who have confessed their undying love for you. Although I am female, I have never come across a magazine I look forward to reading more than *Maxim*. My only beef is that I blame you for dropping my perfect 4.0 average to a 3.8, because I always put everything else aside when my magazine arrives. Thank you for giving me a plethora of useless facts and wisdom to entertain my friends and bar guests with!

Kristen via e-mail

Glad we could help, Kristen. Because with a pathetic 3.8, it doesn't look like you'll be getting out from behind that bar anytime soon.

Strikeout

I meticulously read your magazine looking for mistakes, and to your credit, I really could not find any—until today. I just received my April issue with the 2010 baseball preview, and you guys made a game-changing error: You listed Adam Wainwright as a right fielder (RF) when he is a starting pitcher (SP). I was wondering if this was intentional or a mistake. Thanks again; you guys are awesome.

Anthony via e-mail

Intentional. Definitely intentional. Nothing to see here. Move along.

Job Well Done

Great article on *Tim and Eric Awesome Show, Great Job!* I immediately put Seasons 1–3 at the top of my Netflix queue after reading this article. Apparently, I've been sleeping on this duo, but not now, after your stellar reporting.

Kenny D. via e-mail

As long as you've slept on and not with this duo, you should be fine. (Gentle Eric is not.)

$tolen Heart

That photo spread of Ke$ha in the April issue was dynamite—I think I might be in love. She and I would be perfect together. I just happen to be an older, chubby, bearded man who wears glasses, just how she likes 'em! And I have absolutely no problem being covered in glitter at her every whim, but I do have one small, temporary issue: I'm currently in a federal prison camp for money laundering. Do you think this is a deal breaker?

Jimmy Hewitt Yazoo City, MS

Prison camp? That sounds like fun, Jimbo! Watch out for the showers, because we caught a mean case of athlete's foot from one at a field-hockey camp in the summer of '97.

CORRECTION!

In the March issue, we credited Vincent Coca with the winning entry of our caption contest. In fact, Heini Acosta was the clever jokester with the killer caption. Sorry, Heini! Both for the mixup and your terrible, terrible name.

APRIL FOOLS! SOCCER PRO MICHAEL HARRINGTON GETS BURNED.

SEE IT NOW! Hit up Maxim.com for more on this awesome prank.

APRIL 1, 2010: TEAMMATES CONVINCE THE KANSAS CITY WIZARDS FOOTBALLER (THE KICKY KIND) THAT MAXIM IS DOING A PHOTO SHOOT OF ATHLETES ACTING LIKE ANIMALS. WE WEREN'T.

FALLING FOR IT

Unbeknownst to us, Harrington donned fuzzy ears, had whiskers drawn on, and posed for a fake *Maxim* photog.

STILL FALLING FOR IT

Dubious, he was convinced when told the magazine was shooting Albert Pujols as a bear next.

TRUE DEDICATION

The photographer asked Harrington to "pounce on the ball like a cat." It got weirder when he started cleaning himself.

YOU DID IT!

He might have gotten tricked, but now he's in the mag for real. Stay fierce, Mike!

DENISE TRUSCELLO (ALICE)

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jokes

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A husband and wife are watching a TV show about psychology that explains the phenomenon of "mixed emotions." The husband turns to his wife and says, "Honey, that's a bunch of crap. I bet **you can't tell me anything** that will make me happy and sad at the same time." She says, "Out of all your friends, you have the biggest dick."
John Moore, Orlando, FL

Classroom Boner

"Miss Connery," a professor asks his medical student, "what part of the male anatomy grows to 10 times its original size when aroused?"

The student blushes and says, "I'm too embarrassed to answer."

The professor replies, "It's the pupil." He continues, "We just learned two things about you, Miss Connery: First, you did not read last night's assignment. And second, you are in for a lifetime of grave disappointment."
Steven Tunick, Fairfax, VA

Art Attack

An artist asks the gallery owner if there has been any interest in his paintings.

"I've got good news and bad news," the owner replies. "The good news is a gentleman inquired about your work and wondered if it would appreciate in value after your death. When I told him it would, he bought every painting."

"That's wonderful!" the artist exclaims. "So what's the bad news?"

The owner replies, "He was your doctor."
Ray Morgan, Plymouth, MA

Dog Eat Dog

Three dogs are at a vet, in adjoining cages. One says,"I chewed up all my master's shoes, and so I'm being put to sleep."

The next dog says, "I peed on my master's Persian rug, and I'm being put to sleep, too."

The third dog says, "My mistress likes to clean in the nude, so when she bent over I rode her like a pony!"

"And you're being put to sleep?" asked the other dogs.

"No," says the third dog. "I'm just getting my nails clipped."
Robert Monroe, Schenectady, NY

THE HA-HA LIST
BY MICHAEL BRUMM

What Men Thought of to Prolong Sex Before Baseball Was Invented

Dying from smallpox

Feeding Christians to lions

Witch burning

The economic and cultural impact of the Industrial Revolution

John Adams churning butter

Crop rotation

Stepping in stegosaur dung

Ponce de León's constrictive codpiece

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ONE KNOCKDOWN-FUNNY JOKE FROM A STAND-UP COMIC.

JOKESTER: JOE DEVITO

FIGHTING OUT OF: Long Island, NY

WOMEN TEND TO BE EXCITED BY MY: Claiming they could do a lot worse, if you know what I mean.

MY INFOMERCIAL WOULD SELL: Something that cooks eggs using bong water.

ONE THING PEOPLE SAY THAT STIRS UP AN INSTANT DESIRE TO THROW A PUNCH: "Hey, meet me at the Olive Garden."

IF I WERE A NINJA, I WOULD: Enjoy the black pajamas. They're very slimming.

WORST HUMILIATION EVER SUFFERED: Once tried to storm out of a business meeting but couldn't get the door open.

FANS RECOGNIZE ME BY: My eyeglasses and miscellaneous DNA evidence.

MORTAL ENEMY: Flo, the Progressive Insurance lady.

Click over to joedevito.com for more thick-rimmed hilarity!

BEAT THIS CAPTION

TO ENTER

1. Enter your caption at Maxim.com/contests.*
2. Gape in wonder at these handsome Urbanears headphones.
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APRIL'S WINNER

"Manny Ramirez *off* steriods."
Johnny Russell

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MY FIRST TIME:

CHRISTIAN SERRATOS

***Twilight*'s barely legal breakout star (she's 19!) fulfills our fantasies with a few of her more memorable firsts.**

PHOTOGRAPHS BY CHRIS HEADS

FIRST CUT
I have a terrible, terrible fear of knives. I only buy food that I don't need to cut...I haven't cut my food in years! Like, I won't even touch a plastic knife or anything sharp. And if I'm in a kitchen and somebody picks up a knife, I leave.

FIRST DATE DISASTER
I was a serious competitive figure skater and still ice-skate as much as I can. Anyway, I once brought a date to the rink to have him experience what I was into. So all is going fine, and then—bam!—he bit it extremely hard! Skate time was over. His bruises were scary. I felt so bad.

FIRST NUDE PHOTO
I did a nude anti-fur ad for PETA. The photo focuses on my butt. Now, I've always been, like, this stick, but for some reason I've always had an ass. But still, before the shoot I worked out hard and toned up. I mean, I was going to be naked! I feel like I succeeded, because Mario Lopez told me it inspired him to stop eating meat.

FIRST *TWILIGHT* STALKER
During filming I had this creepy guy just follow me *everywhere* one day. And he wasn't even sly. He was like, "Yep, I'm here. I'm following you." And then that day he cornered a friend and me in an alley and we booked it the other way. We laughed about it later, but it was frightening.

FIRST KISS
My first on-screen kiss was lame: Nickelodeon. But my first real-life kiss was super cute and nice, but still very awkward. It was with this hot skateboarder with dreadlocks. He was my little rasta man.—*Mike Dawson*

Cosabella bustier; Calvin Klein panties. Previous page: La Perla lingerie

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MAXIM

BIG TROUBLE IN LITTLE CHINA

ENJOY A SHORT STAY IN THE KINGDOM OF DWARVES.

Bleacher section of the San Francisco No-So-Giants

Is this Chinese village populated entirely by dwarves awesome or exploitative? Stop arguing—you're both right! In the mountains outside of Kunming (great Chinese food there, by the way) sits a stronghold known as the Kingdom of the Dwarves. It is home to more than 80 little people, who live in castlelike structures and dance around in fairy costumes for the amusement of tourists. Sound kind of yucky? Well, the dwarves who live there say that rather than being exploitative, this new home gives them financial opportunities they wouldn't have elsewhere (they make about $150 a month) and provides them with the comfort of being surrounded by similarly statured folks. So cram your politically correct feelings and go party with these whimsical imps!

No one pushes little people around...well, except for other little people.

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PINK PUNK COSMO $6
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Unemployment has its charms, but if you want to eat, let ITS get you a gig. They'll write your résumé and cover letter and even negotiate your salary. Pay them enough and maybe they'll do your job for you, too. *—Lisa Freedman*

ILLUSTRATION BY QUICKHONEY

THE FIESTA HAS ENOUGH NEW-WORLD TECHNOLOGY TO PUT A 50-GRAND CAR TO SHAME.

There's a lot you can get in a Fiesta. A class-exclusive 4" multifunctional LCD display,* standard. A PowerShift six-speed automatic transmission.** That's the kind of engineering that makes it more responsive and still keeps it fuel-efficient.† The Fiesta also offers keyless entry,** push-button start,** voice-activated SYNC®†† and even ambient lighting.** All told, that's as much high-end technology as many premium cars. How's that for high tech?

IT'S A PRETTY BIG DEAL.

INTRODUCING THE NEW **FIESTA**

fordvehicles.com

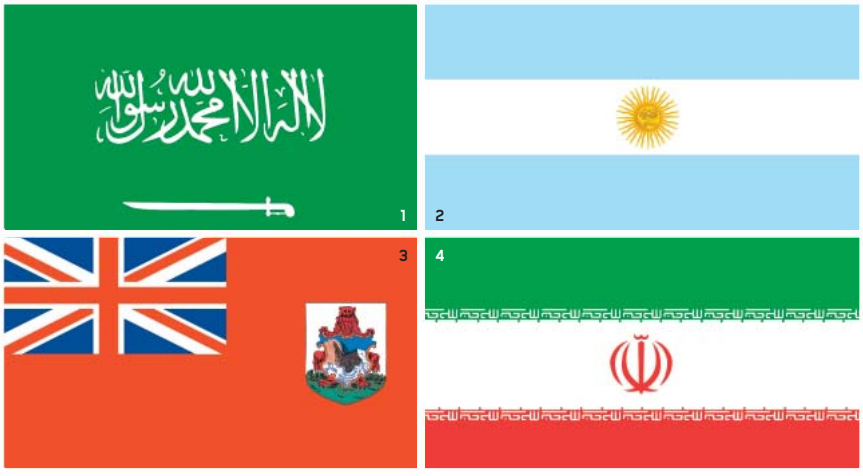
Ford

Drive one.

*Class is Compact Cars vs. 2010 competitors. **Optional. †Projected 30 city/40 hwy mpg, SFE Package. Ford preliminary data. Pending EPA certification. ††Optional. Driving while distracted can result in loss of vehicle control. Only use mobile phones and other devices, even with voice commands, when it is safe to do so.

HOORAY FOR FLAG DAY!

OUR FASHION-FORWARD PANEL CELEBRATES OLD GLORY'S ANNUAL EXULTATION (JUNE 14, SAVE-THE-DATERS!) BY DECONSTRUCTING OTHER COUNTRIES' ICKY EMBLEMS.



1 SAUDI ARABIA

ANDREW: The sword is quiet but pointed, and I can only imagine what the text says. Hopefully it explains how this flag is completely badass.

ANN C.: I like the pretty sword. It says "religion of peace" to me.

JIM: Normally, to see this shade of green, you'd have to drop enough acid to paralyze a medium-size rhinoceros.

ANNE S.: Makes me feel like my mother is yelling at me so loudly that I can't understand a word she's saying. But it doesn't matter because she is about to lop my head off with that sword.

2 ARGENTINA

ANDREW: The sky blue sets up the sun nicely—and what a sun it is! This flag rules. Deal with it.

JIM: This looks like the Pan Am logo. The pained expression on the sun's face reminds me of a 10-year-old playing a sunflower in the school play.

ANNE S.: This has a certain sexy arrogance that I find appealing.

NOLÉ: That light blue's so fresh, so spring. Paired with the white and yellow of the summer sun? *Girl!* Argentina's flag better work!

3 BERMUDA

ANDREW: The ship on the shield doesn't appear to have any sails, which would explain why it's crashing into the rocks.

JIM: Nothing I love more than a flag that can't make up its mind. It's almost as if half the country wanted to be British and the other half wanted to live on Fraggle Rock.

ANNE S.: What a mess, but it looks like a good time.

4 IRAN

ANDREW: One of the all-time great flags (and I'm not just saying that because my wife is Persian). I like how they're tipping their hat to Italy. The best Italian food is in northern Iran. I'm going to get some Iranian penne alla vodka and party hard!

JIM: Reminds me of Italy, if Italy were run by a sociopath in a Members Only jacket.

NOLÉ: Looks like Italy's flag: the red sole of a Louboutin stiletto, the white of an Armani spring suit, and the green of a Fendi purse, all with a Middle Eastern twist. Fierce!

ANN C.: Where have I seen this flag before? Oh, yeah, I remember: flying at Sean Penn's house.

ANDREW W.K.
>White-after-Labor-Day hard rocker whose new album, *Close Calls With Brick Walls/Mother of Mankind*, is in stores now.

ANN COULTER
>Author of seven *New York Times* bestsellers, including the most recent, *Guilty: Liberal "Victims" and Their Assault on America.*

JIM NORTON
>World-renowned comedian whose latest albums—*Trinkets I Own Made From Gorilla Hands* and *Yellow Discipline*—are now available on iTunes.

ANNE SLOWEY
>Fashion news director of *Elle* magazine.

NOLÉ MARIN
>Fashion director of *Runway Magazine* and former judge on *America's Next Top Model.*

EAT ME!

HOW TO COOK A GOURMET FIVE-COURSE MEAL USING ONLY WHAT YOU HAVE LYING AROUND...IN YOUR BODY.

Aperitif

HOT FOAMING PEE

Drinking urine replenishes lost nutrients, which is why champion boxer Juan Manuel Marquez swears by it (presumably something along the lines of, "Why the fuck did I just drink that?"). But don't run down to the men's room for a pint; it is important to drink only your own.

Appetizer

BUKKAKE OYSTERS

According to the book *Natural Harvest: A Collection of Semen-Based Recipes*, you can "re-savor the feeling of a silky, succulent oyster sliding down your throat by using the shells as semen serving dishes." Now *that's* an aphrodisiac (if vomiting turns you on).

Entree

AFTERBIRTH WITH OREGANO

A common practice in some places, eating a placenta can be as yummy as it is healthy, allegedly tasting like filet mignon. Popular recipes include placenta spaghetti, placenta lasagna, and placenta pizza, so clearly Italy has a lot to answer for.

Dessert

BLOOD PUDDING

Everyone loves Popsicles, so how about making one out of frozen blood? That's what artist Marc Quinn did, albeit he sculpted it to look like his head. He used 10 pints of his own blood, but really, half a cup would probably do for a Slushee.

Continental Selection

CHEESE AND CRACKERS

Your human feast can be nicely finished off with some cheese made from breast milk, as recently demonstrated by N.Y.C. chef Daniel Angerer, who makes it from his wife's leftover lactate at Klee Brasserie. Now wash your hands and go to the nearest hospital.

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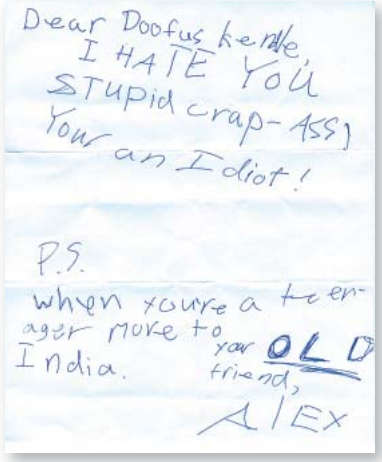
ENJOY OTHER PEOPLE'S PAIN!

PUT SOME SCHADENFREUDE ON YOUR COFFEE TABLE.



HEADQUARTERS AND COMPANY "A" (MAIL PT)
501ST MAINTENANCE BATTALION (ABN DIV)
101ST AIRBORNE SUPPORT GROUP
101st Airborne Division
Fort Campbell, Kentucky

31 May 62
(Date)

SUBJECT: Request for Discharge

TO: Commanding Officer
101st Airborne Support Group
101st Airborne Division

1. Recommend the following named enlisted man be:

X Discharged under authority contained in AR 635-208.

___ Discharged under authority contained in AR 635-209.

Yep, that's Jimi Hendrix!

(Name)	(SN)	(Grade)	(Organization)
Hendrix, James M	RA 19 693 532	Pvt E-2	HQ & Co "A", 501st Maint Bn Spt GP, 101st Abn Div

2. Age 19

3. Date of (*enlistment) (~~induction~~) May 61

4. Term for which (*enlisted) (~~inducted~~) 3 years

5. Prior service None

6. This enlisted man (~~does~~) (*does not) have a reserve commission or warrant. (If so, show service number, grade, and date of appointment).

7. Reasons for the action recommended: (General nondescriptive terms will be avoided) Behavior problems, requires excessive supervision while on duty, little regard for regulations, apprehended masturbating in platoon area while supposed to be on detail.

8. AFQT score: 54

9. Aptitude area scores: CO-A 120 ; CO-B 109 ; EL 106 ; MM 93 ; CL 114 ; GT 109 ; RC 121 ; IN ___ ; AR ___.

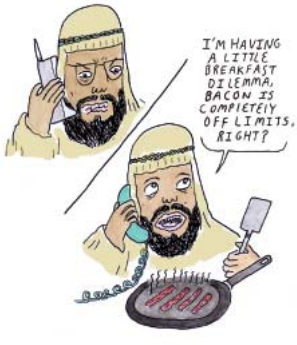
10. Conduct rating Vns Efficiency rating Vns
Duty MOS 760.07 PMOS 760.07.

*Line out words not applicable.

FC FL 603(Rev)
27 Mar 62

Do you laugh when you see someone fall down and cry? Then this might be the book for you. *Other People's Rejection Letters* compiles 150 real "no thanks" notes delivered to famous folks (like Andy Warhol, whose drawing was deemed not worthy to hang in a museum), stupid folks (like the guy who applied to Princeton's law school even though Princeton doesn't have a law school), and overeager folks (like Mr. Bill Dobrow, whose application to become a marine was turned down because he was 12). There are also a lot of hate-filled rants aimed at ex-boyfriends and ex-girlfriends and even one sent to Roseanne Barr. Read up and feel just a little bit better about yourself. *$22.50*

PHONING IT IN DIAL UP THE WORLD'S LEAST SEXY 900 NUMBERS.



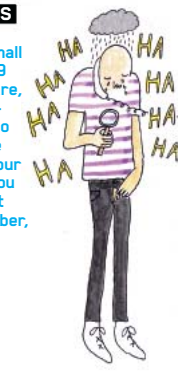
HOLY FATWA!
Muslims in Saudi Arabia who seek a fatwa (a ruling from an Islamic scholar) can take their own shortcut to inner peace by calling a for-pay hot line to ask sheiks their pressing religious questions. Now if you'll excuse us, we're going to stop writing before we crack a joke that gets us exploded.

FORGIVENESS HAS A PRICE
For .34 euros a minute—or roughly .34 euros more than it costs to go to church—Le Fil du Seigneur (The Line of the Lord) lets guilt-ridden Frenchies confess their sins while simultaneously playing *Super Breakout* on their iPhones.

FOR THE BIRDS
Last year when hundreds of Brits needed help diagnosing their H1N1 flu symptoms, they were told to call a free government hot line that—drumroll, please—was almost un-free. In fact, Vodafone planned on charging its customers 20 pence (30¢) per minute for calls that would typically last 15 to 20 minutes. Those plans were eventually scrapped. Blimey!

ACTOR GIVES IT AWAY
Register with Tyrese Gibson's ridiculous Love Circle hot line and the *Transformers* "star" will send words of wisdom and his keys to success directly to the voice-mail boxes of his adoring fans. Wait, Tyrese Gibson has fans? And success?

TINY MEMBERS ONLY
If you have a small penis and $3.99 a minute to spare, dial 1-877-233-6366 to listen to a woman giggle at the size of your "little worm." You can't afford not to dial this number, not-so-big boy.



ILLUSTRATIONS BY MATTHEW VOLZ

Ed Hardy®

FRAGRANCE

Hearts & Daggers™

BUCKLE

YOUR WORLD CUP CHEAT SHEET

SOCCER'S BIGGEST DANCE DOESN'T HAVE TO SUCK. PEEP OUR PRIMER AND BE A FOOTBALLER.

When the World Cup kicks off on June 11 in South Africa, most of the planet will take a monthlong smoke break, alcohol sales will skyrocket, and entire industries will grind to a halt. Meanwhile, Americans will make jokes about no scores and ask their bartenders to change the channel. Stop hating! Here's what you need to know to embrace the "beautiful game" this summer.

WORLD CUP 101

+ Played every four years since 1930.
+ 204 national teams compete for the 32 spots in tourney.
+ Brazil has played in every tourney and holds the record for most titles (five).
+ Italy is the reigning champ (2006). It has four titles.
+ 715 million folks watched the finals in 2006. (A mere 106 million watched Super Bowl XLIV.)
+ Matches are 90 minutes, with two 45-minute halves. Stoppage time (time elapsed during penalties, injuries, hair brushing) is tacked on at end of each half.

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT TEAM U.S.A.

We play England in round one and actually have a shot: Team U.K. is plagued with scandal (see below), Beckham's Achilles is iffy, and we're due: Our last win over the Brits was in 1950.

WAG OFF

HOT WIVES AND GIRLFRIENDS OF SOCCER PLAYERS

SCANDALS

AWKWARD LOCKER ROOM MOMENT OF THE YEAR: ENGLAND'S CAPTAIN, JOHN TERRY, ALLEGEDLY KNOCKED UP VANESSA PERRONCEL, THE HOT GIRLFRIEND OF TEAMMATE WAYNE BRIDGE.

188,000

Number of security workers who will be employed to keep the hooligans in check.

HAIRBALL: SOCCER'S MOST WHACKTASTIC CUTS

> THE FABIO
When not clashing with sweaty men in shorts, Carlos Tevez of Spain is posing for Harlequin romance novels.

> THE PREDATOR
We suspect our own Kyle Beckerman can totally roll a J with one hand.

> THE KOTTER
Belgian Marouane Fellaini wins the *Welcome Back, Kotter* Epstein award. His brows are 'fros, too.

> THE REALLY?
French 'baller Djibril Cissé buys peroxide and cookie cutters by the gallon.

> THE PULLET
A ponytail and a mullet did the dirty and had a love child. It lives atop the head of Italian Mauro Camoranesi.

WORD TO KNOW
VUVUZELA (VOO-VOO-ZEH-LAH), noun
1. A two-foot-long plastic horn fans blow to support the South African soccer team.
2. The source of that wildly annoying buzz you'll hear throughout games.
3. Impetus for the newly developed vuvu earplug (they're available at the games).

KEY YANK PLAYERS

AMERICANS SET TO KICK THE WORLD IN THE BALLS

CLINT DEMPSEY
The sharp-elbowed midfielder is known for hard challenges (he fights) and clutch goals.

TIM HOWARD
Tourette's (really) keeps our goalie hyperfocused.

CARLOS BOCANEGRA
Captain and MLS Defender of the Year is a veritable wall.

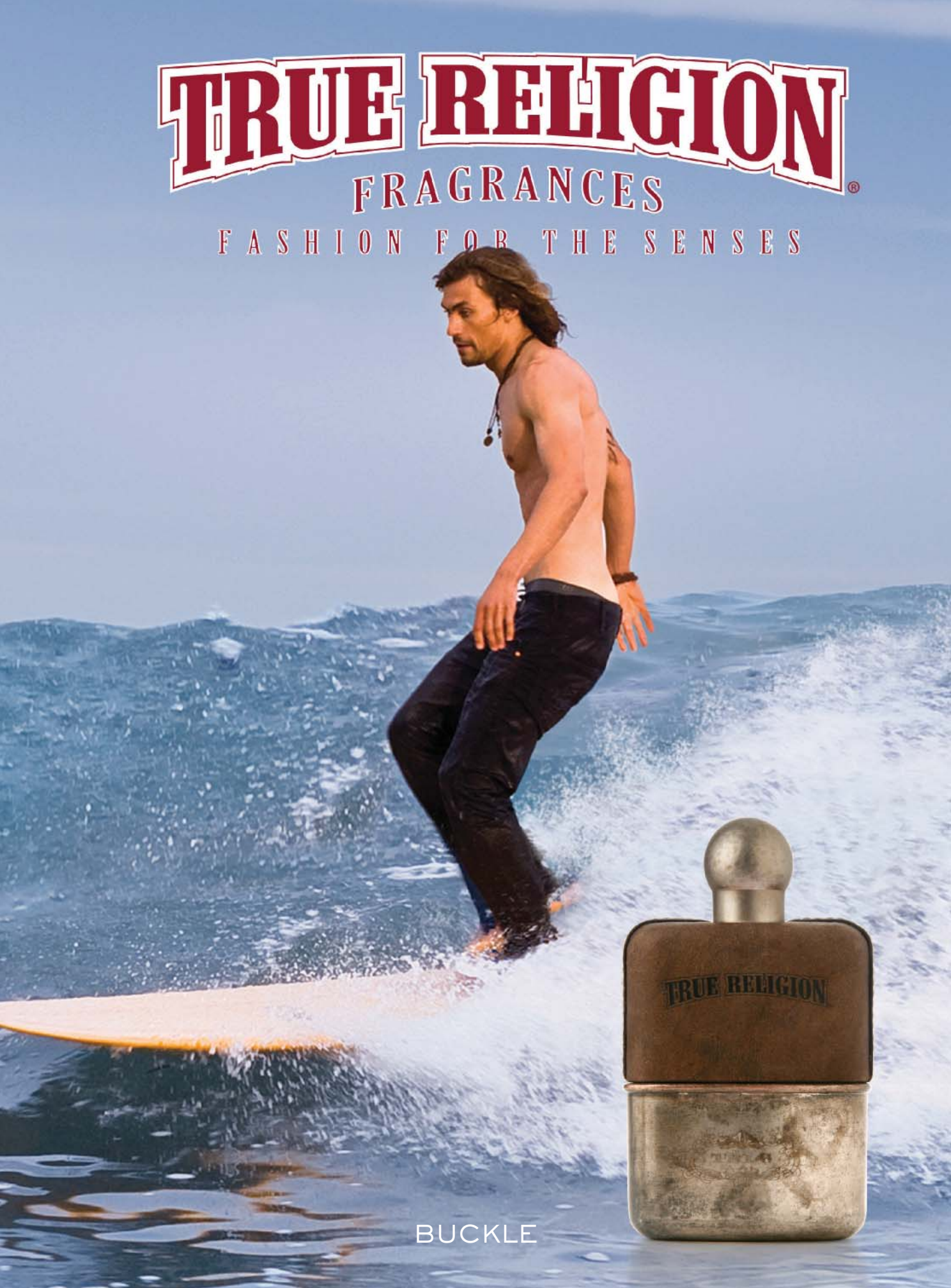
JOZY ALTIDORE
A goal-scoring prodigy; the future of American soccer.

HOOLIGANS

International soccer and rabid hooliganism go hand in hand: In November, 200 Egyptian hooligans attacked Algeria's team bus with rocks, injuring four players. Also, 3,200 known U.K. hooligans (yep, there's a goon database) must hand over passports to authorities if they set foot in South Africa.

FAVORITES SPAIN IS FAVORED, BUT BRAZIL (ALL-TIME CHAMPS) AND THE NETHERLANDS ARE NIPPING AT THEIR UMBRO SHORTS.

KEY MATCHES **USA VS. ENGLAND** JUNE 12, 2:30 P.M. (EDT) **ARGENTINA VS. NIGERIA** JUNE 12, 10 A.M. **IVORY COAST VS. PORTUGAL** JUNE 15, 10 A.M.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FRAGRANCES
FASHION FOR THE SENSES
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BUCKLE

HOT 100

KIM KARDASHIAN
Occupation: Reality TV royalty
Key quote: "Wait, is a cucumber a pickle??? I did not know this at all!" [Just one of many of KK's legendary tweets]

GENTLEMEN, gaze upon the 10 HOTTEST OF THE HOT WOMEN who sexied their way onto our annual ranking of gorgeousness this year. We've crowned one of these heart-stopping beauties No. 1, but who do you think should take the title? BY MICHAEL LOCKHART

GOT A BURNING OPINION?

HEAD ON OVER TO MAXIM.COM TO RANK THE HOT 100 ELITE, WITNESS SIZZLING VIDEOS, AND EXPERIENCE ALL KINDS OF BONUS HOT 100 FUN!

RIHANNA
Occupation: Radio-ruling diva
Key quote: "The mystique I have kept has been because I don't say a lot. There are a lot of rumors about me. Every day it's something new."

MARISA MILLER
Occupation: Supermodel supreme
Key quote: "When I get a little crazy, I make sure it's done behind closed doors."

BLAKE LIVELY
Occupation: Gossip glamour girl
Key quote: "I grew up with the mind-set that when you get home from work, you go to dinner and watch a movie. I don't want to be going to a club and taking off my panties."

KATY PERRY
Occupation: Curious crooner
Key quote: "Can you imagine the kind of responsibility I have with [fiancé Russell Brand's] reputation? I'm bedridden most of the week."

FACEBOOK.COM/ABSOLUT

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ABSOLUT® VODKA. PRODUCT OF SWEDEN. 40% ALC./VOL. DISTILLED FROM GRAIN. ©2010 IMPORTED BY ABSOLUT SPIRITS CO., NEW YORK, NY.

ABSOLUT TWIST

Cocktails Perfected

a Vision from

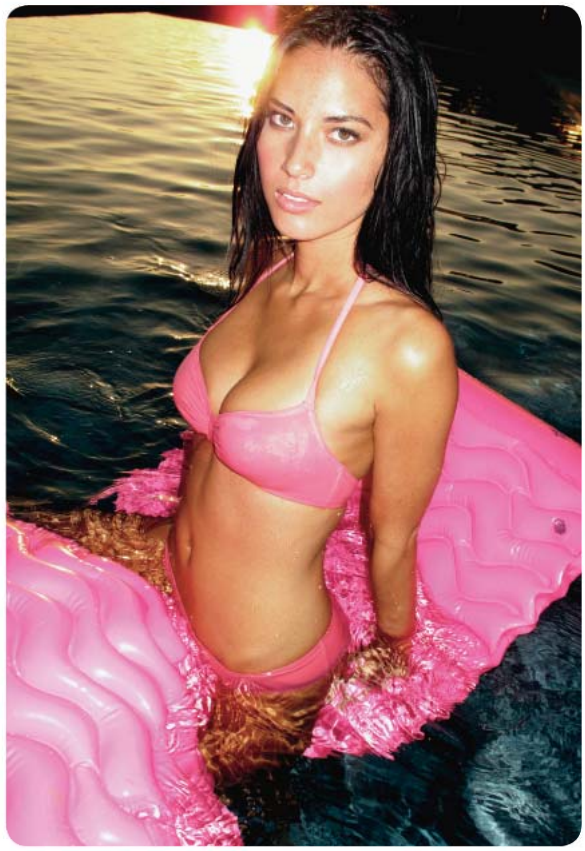
KATE BECKINSALE & ELLEN VON UNWERTH

CIRCUS MAXIMUS

HOT 100

HOT 100 ON THE TUBE

TUNE IN TO E! ON MAY 26 AT 10 P.M. (EDT) AS MAXIM COVER MAVEN OLIVIA MUNN HOSTS OUR ANNUAL HOURLONG SALUTE TO THE SEXIEST WOMEN ON THE PLANET.



ELISABETTA CANALIS

Occupation: Italian eye candy
Key quote: "Swimming and dancing are my favorite activities, but lately I'm practicing kickboxing."

OLIVIA MUNN

Occupation: Geek goddess
Key quote: "For my *Maxim* cover shoot, I wore what I felt comfortable in. I'm comfortable in my own skin. I'm comfortable with my sexuality."

BROOKLYN DECKER

Occupation: Bikini queen
Key quote: "People set the bar pretty low for us models when it comes to smarts. It's sad but true, so it's always a nice feeling when you surprise someone by actually carrying on a conversation."

MEGAN FOX

Occupation: Reason for living
Key quote: "I'm not wholesome, but I am trying to behave."

ZOË SALDANA

Occupation: Silver-screen stunner
Key quote: "I'm more of a guy's girl. I like having a beer in a bar, and I don't bicker or sit down and do my nails."

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ABSOLUT BERRI AÇAÍ SOUR
Mix 2 parts ABSOLUT® BERRI AÇAÍ with ¾ part simple syrup and 1 part fresh lemon juice. Shake and serve straight up. Garnish with blueberries.
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A flavor symphony of açaí, blueberry, pomegranate blended with vodka distilled from grain grown in the rich fields of southern Sweden. Vodka has been sold under the name Absolut since 1879.
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An enticing combination of açaí, blueberry, and pomegranate

Because an Exceptional Drink Begins with the Perfect Blend

IN AN ABSOLUT WORLD

GOT A DUMB QUESTION? Send your brain-busters to ask@maxim.com.

Ask Maxim

Decoding the secrets to a sexy lawn, treasure-hunting tricks, frightening football, and the hottest places on Earth!

How do I mow stripes in my lawn?

Deter Teach, Harrisburg, PA

Entering his 11th season with the Boston Red Sox, **director of grounds David Mellor** helps you create your own private Fenway:

1. THE PREPPING. "A healthy lawn is the perfect canvas for a mowing pattern," Mellor declares. He recommends a soil test (call the county extension agent in the blue pages),using a quality fertilizer like Scotts, and overseeding. Too lazy to do all that? He also notes that a "mowing pattern can help hide damage and imperfections—the stripes can make things look busy and camouflage a bad lawn," so feel free to stay on the couch.

2. THE LENGTHS. "Follow the one-third rule, where you never cut off more than a third of the grass at any one time." You'll want to leave about three inches, so let it hit four and a half before hacking it down. Mellor advises never going below two and a half inches… unless you're a stickler for accuracy: the Sox keep theirs between one inch and one and a quarter inches for playability.

3. THE GEAR. "While tires and mowing blades make patterns in the grass, our mowers also have rollers on them, and those rollers really add to the crispness of the pattern." Purchase add-on rollers or, if you're a frugal bastard, make your own, as explained in Mellor's book, *Picture Perfect*.

4. THE CUT. "A light stripe is mowed away from you, and a dark stripe is mowed toward you." Don't worry about screwups: "If you make a mistake, all you do is go back to the previous couple of lines and start over." Bust out the tape measure if you're obsessed with precision and soon graduate to mowing in team logos, retired numbers, or just a tasteful reproduction of Ted Williams' severed head.

CAN USING A METAL DETECTOR AT THE BEACH REALLY MAKE YOU RICH?

Carl Trainor, Paterson, NJ

Though a surefire way to attract all the fly ladies, wandering the beach with a metal detector doesn't seem to have produced a life-altering score. The big loot is in the fields. In 1992 limey Eric Lawes agreed to use his metal detector to help a farmer in Hoxne find a hammer. He located something better: thousands of gold and silver coins buried during the fifth century. The government claimed the treasure but gave Lawes and the farmer nearly $3 million in compensation. So get a detector already and slowly shuffle your way to the big time.

WHAT'S THE RISKIEST SPORT TO WATCH LIVE?

Zachary Barbosa, Salt Lake City, UT

They can't use their hands, but they can rack up a body count. In the past 25 years, 132 fans were crushed to death during two soccer games that featured a single team (you go, Liverpool!). The carnage is by no means limited to England (66 died during a game in Scotland in 1971) or even Europe (126 perished in a soccer stampede in Ghana in 2001). And we haven't even reached the biggie: an estimated 350 soccer spectators met their maker during a 1982 European Cup match in Moscow. Throw in random acts of violence—2010's highlights include a 14-year-old Argentine fan taking three bullets in the head—and zinging a battery at the douche in the Mets hat seems downright civilized.

WHAT IS THE HOTTEST PLACE ON EARTH? HOW ABOUT THE COLDEST?

Doug Colindan, Los Angeles, CA

While their temperatures are at opposite extremes, these destinations have two things in common: *(1)* They're both in deserts. *(2)* You probably shouldn't go there. El Azizia, Libya gave Muammar al-Qaddafi his one triumph over the U.S.A., edging out our own Death Valley with a recorded temperature of 136°F on September 13, 1922. The official coldest recorded temperature occurred in Vostok, Antarctica, where it dipped to -128.5°F on July 21, 1983. (Note: Antarctica is also a desert, because there's almost no precipitation. Dumb-ass.) Hey, Al Gore: Remind us why we want to save this horrible planet again?

ILLUSTRATION BY JASON LEE

CONFESSIONS OF A
FORMER ROGAINE® CYNIC

"I WASN'T EXACTLY A BELIEVER. UNTIL I TURNED MY CAMERA ON MYSELF."

~ Derek Bauer ~

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RATED

YOUR ULTIMATE ENTERTAINMENT AUTHORITY

The Yay Team

WE PITY THE FOOL WHO THINKS THE NEW *A-TEAM* FLICK IS JUST ANOTHER LAME REMAKE.

Sharlto Copley has never seen the *Dukes of Hazzard* or *Starsky & Hutch* movie (lucky bastard). "The trailers turned me off," says the South African actor who shot to fame as the dude turned creepy-crawly in *District 9*. They were almost enough to make him turn down the role of off-his-rocker pilot Murdock in the *A-Team* film. "I was skeptical of it being a cheesy remake," Copley explains. "But when I heard who was cast, I felt optimistic."

This A-Team is decidedly A-list, with Liam Neeson tackling the role of leader Hannibal, Bradley Cooper as the fast-talking Faceman, and UFC fighter Quinton "Rampage" Jackson taking over Mr. T's mohawk to play resident ass-kicker B.A. Baracus. The film forgoes '80s camp for action so intense that the cast went through Special Forces–style weapons training.

Now Copley is thrilled to be Murdock, even if it did rouse painful memories. "I got the action figures as a kid, and the only one who looked like the actual guy was Mr. T," he laughs. Luckily, Copley likes his updated figure. "At least kids won't go through the disappointment that I did." —*Mike Olson*

***The A-Team* busts into theaters June 11.**

Bradley Cooper, Rampage Jackson, Liam Neeson, and Sharlto Copley: The A-Team ready to F things up.

A-TEAM DOSSIER

- The series, about former U.S. Army Special Forces on the run for "a crime they didn't commit," ran on NBC from 1983 to 1987.
- Star Mr. T got First Lady Nancy Reagan to sit on his lap at a White House Christmas party. Saucy!
- Awesome guest stars included Hulk Hogan, Boy George, Pat Sajak, and Rick James, bitch!

JULIEN PACAUD, COLAGENE.COM

PHOTO-ILLUSTRATION BY JULIEN PACAUD

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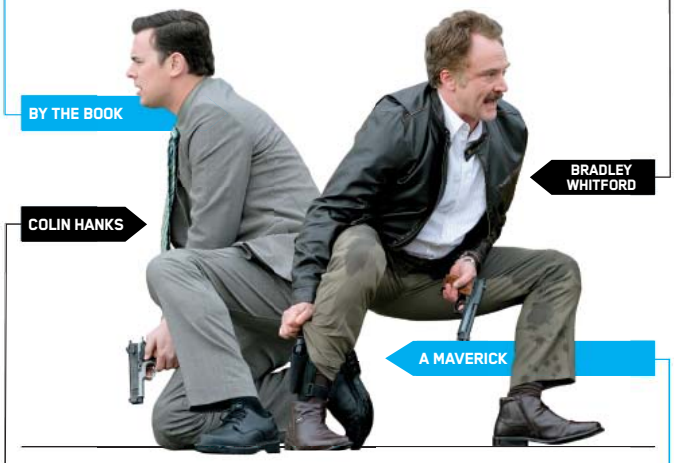
A COUPLE OF DICKS

MISMATCHED COPS ARE COMING TO PRIME TIME ON *THE GOOD GUYS*.

Not enough mustaches and Trans Ams on the boob tube for ya? Then thank the Lord for Fox's new hourlong action-comedy *The Good Guys*. Starring Bradley Whitford and Colin Hanks as poorly paired detectives forced to partner up, the show brings new life to a well-trod formula. Whitford, who plays loose cannon Dan, tells us why to tune in.

THE SHOW IS DIFFERENT.
"There are great cop shows on TV, but they all have irony deficiencies. This one is a mix of comedy, action, and procedural. It's the lighter side of alcoholism and gunplay."

THERE'S A MUSTACHE.
"It's real, which creeps people out. When I drop off my kids at school, the mothers look at me in a sad way. They'll go, 'Is that for a part?' hoping I haven't chosen to have a 'stache."



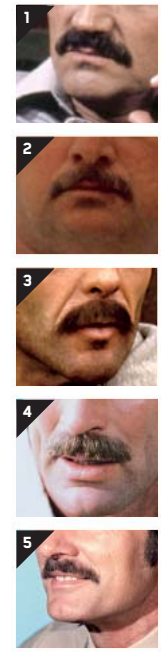
THE DUO HAS CHEMISTRY.
"Colin Hanks? I don't like him. I sound like a guy promoting his TV show, but he's a blast. The more seriously he takes something, the goofier he is, and that's a good quality for his character. He is conscientious, and I just want to bust punks."

IT STARS A TRUE THESPIAN.
"When I did *Revenge of the Nerds II: Nerds in Paradise*, people knew I could play a yuppie dickhead, but they didn't think I could play a yuppie dickhead on vacation. I think I proved them wrong."

The Good Guys starts June 7 at 9 P.M. on Fox.

KNOW YOUR TV DETECTIVE 'STACHES

YOUR PATHETIC NICK AT NITE HABIT IS ABOUT TO PAY OFF BIG.



1. Hal Linden, *Barney Miller* **2.** Dennis Franz, *NYPD Blue* **3.** Bruce Weitz, *Hill Street Blues* **4.** Tom Selleck, *Magnum, P.I.* **5.** Dennis Weaver, *McCloud*

DEMON DAYS

GET READY TO MEET YOUR NEW *NEIGHBORS FROM HELL*.

In TBS's animated series *Neighbors From Hell*, the Enron-like company Petromundo starts a drilling project that will eventually hit into Hades itself. To stop this, Satan sends Balthazor Hellman and his demon family up to Earth's surface. We asked Killbride, Petromundo's human CEO, why he's more evil than any demon.

What kind of company is Petromundo?
The biggest. Everything from drilling oil to setting up dictatorships to making baby pajamas: We do it all.

How do you like your new employee, Balthazor Hellman?
Hellman? He reminds me of my high school prom date. A bit of a dimwit, not too easy on the eyes, but knows how to take a punch. Good man.

Do you promote a diverse workplace?
Of course. We at Petromundo hire white men from all backgrounds. Last month we even hired a woman. Very talented. And really big knockers.

We hear there's a drilling project you are working on...
Yep, her name is Jessica Alba. [*Laughing*] In all seriousness, I am developing a drill. It's gonna reach the center of Earth. It's quite huge. I'll be able to take all the oil from everyone everywhere. Did you hear that, Saudi Arabia?

What are you most proud of?
Swine flu. We made a fortune selling vaccines. Wait till 2012. Two words: squirrel fever.

You're an avid golfer. What do you think of the Tiger Woods scandal?
Hmm. That's a tough question, being that Tiger and I are very, very, very close friends. He has a lot to learn about life. Lesson No. 1? Don't text whores.

Word is you are quite an animal lover...
That happened once on a weird weekend retreat in Egypt. I thought she was a Kardashian. Turns out it was a spider monkey. Talk about a foot job. Ah, life.

Neighbors From Hell premieres June 7 at 10 P.M. on TBS.

THE WHITE STUFF

THE *WHITEST KIDS U'KNOW* GOOFBALLS ARE BACK FOR ANOTHER SEASON.

Tired of *SNL*-style pop culture sketches about Nancy Pelosi and iPads? How 'bout some Monty Python–esque absurdity? (Picture an eight-foot-tall automaton dedicated to makin' love to the world.) Before creating horny sex robots, the *Whitest Kids* cast paid some ha-ha dues. "Back in the day, junkies crashed in [cast member] Trevor Moore's stairwell," says fellow Kid Zach Cregger. Maybe those early jaunts with junkies are why no topic is taboo. "We won't avoid any subject matter," Cregger adds. "At the end of the day, it just has to be funny." For these kids, that's not a problem.

Season 4 of *The Whitest Kids U'Know* premieres June 11 at 10 P.M. on IFC.

READ THIS BOOK
Mixing fact and fiction like the sickest *Law & Order* ever, Adam Ross' debut novel, **Mr. Peanut**, follows a dude suspected of murdering his wife. The jerk! *$26*

WATCH THIS FLICK
Inspired by the true story of a Hasid who is sucked into an ecstasy smuggling ring, **Holy Rollers** has all the ingredients of a sexy crime story: gangs, drugs, and latkes!

SET YOUR TIVO
On the new season of the History Channel's **Ice Road Truckers**, the drivers—including lone female Lisa Kelly—face even more nasty Alaskan terrain.

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RATED MUSIC

GRUNGE REDUX TIME!

YOU DOWN WITH STP?

SCOTT WEILAND, LEADER OF REUNITED HIT MAKERS STONE TEMPLE PILOTS, ON DOPE, DUDS, AND DOJOS.

Q&A

Stone Temple Pilots are putting out their first album in nine years. Why now?
It started with our reunion tour. I was on the road with Velvet Revolver, sitting by the pool next to Slash, when [STP guitarist] Dean DeLeo calls: "We got offered a million dollars to play Coachella." So we put the baggage away.

Velvet Revolver fired you for "erratic onstage behavior and personal problems."
It wasn't a big deal. I was late to some shows, but I never threw down the mike or stormed off-stage. And like Slash told me: All the best lead singers are crazy.

The chorus to STP's new single, "Between the Lines," goes: "You always were my favorite drug/Even when we used to take drugs." That mean you're sober?
Yup, for seven and a half years now. I still drink, but no drugs.

What's your drug now?
I just built a dojo in my garage. My sensei, Benny the Jet, built it for me. He's trained in nine disciplines and invented his own. That's what gets my rocks off.

So what's in the cards for STP?
I see making more records and touring—but in a sane manner. When you hear about missing things in your kids' lives because you're out working, it hurts.

Do they like your music?
My son's really into it. He loves the Ramones, the Beatles, the Stones—he's got a good ear. My daughter's more into the Hannah Montana/Miley Cyrus thing. Right now she's more of a fashionista.

So is her dad. What's with your Scott Weiland collection?
It's flamboyant, but with conservative touches. Which is my thing: I'm very liberal, but I like to keep as much money as I can. —*Josh Eells*

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"NOT MYSELF TONIGHT"
The dirrty pop MILF is back and ready to get wasted.

LCD SOUNDSYSTEM
"HOME"
The sound of an epic summer night spent on the dance floor.

THE HOLD STEADY
"HURRICANE J"
Oh-oh-oh-ing arena rock about a waitress named Jessie with class-5 problems.

DRAKE FEAT. THE-DREAM
"SHUT IT DOWN"
This is how it feels to get slow-boned by a drum machine.

THE BLACK KEYS
"TIGHTEN UP"
Ohio's shredding-est blues-rock duo returns with a Danger Mouse–produced winner.

NICKI MINAJ
"MASSIVE ATTACK"
The Queens fem-C rides hard on her tweaked-out debut.

JAMIE LIDELL
"COMPASS"
From a chilled-out U.K. soultronica dude comes... chilled-out U.K. soultronica!

TALES FROM THE STUDIO

THE STRAIGHT DOPE ON THE MONTH'S HOTTEST ALBUMS.

DISTANT RELATIVES
DISTANT RELATIVES

Gruff rap vet Nas spills about his collaboration with reggae scion Damian "Jr. Gong" Marley.

WHERE THE MAGIC HAPPENED
"Jim Henson Studios in L.A. Shit is a magical spot. I don't think they were ready for me there."

ALL-STAR GUESTS
"Oliver Stone chilled with us. I love his movies, and he was loving our songs. Plus, the crazy-talented Joss Stone. No relation."

THREE THINGS WE CAN'T RECORD WITHOUT
"Medicinal hemp, all my niggas, and the Vision Board. It was a colorful board with pictures of different kinds of bud."

BROKEN SOCIAL SCENE
FORGIVENESS ROCK RECORD

Singer Kevin Drew describes the Canadian indie collective's well-fed ways.

WHERE THE MAGIC HAPPENED
"Soma Studios in Chicago, Giant Studios in Toronto, and inside our producer's Jeep."

THREE THINGS WE CAN'T RECORD WITHOUT
"Chorizo-stuffed dates with smoked bacon from Avec, city lights, and guitarist Charles Spearin."

CASUALTIES DURING PRODUCTION
"A broken collarbone thanks to a Montreal stairway."

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Just glimpsed Jason Segel's mangina

MY BIG FAT GREEK BENDER

Russell Brand's rock star character from *Forgetting Sarah Marshall* is off the wagon and going nuts in *Get Him to the Greek*.

It only took one table read for *Forgetting Sarah Marshall* rookie director Nicholas Stoller to realize that he wanted to make his second movie with Russell Brand and Jonah Hill. "Those guys were just really funny riffing together," Stoller explains. "I remember thinking, If they let me do another movie, I want to do it with those two." Nearly $100 million in box office receipts later, Stoller gets his wish with *Get Him to the Greek*, a spin-off that sheds all rom-com pretense (and Jason Segel wang) for a party-till-you-puke vibe.

Infant Sorrow lead singer Aldous Snow (Brand) is back to his debaucherous ways after cleaning up his act in *Sarah Marshall*. And with a gig at L.A.'s famed Greek Theatre set to start in 72 hours, it's up to lowly record company exec Aaron Green (Hill, playing a different character than in *Sarah Marshall*) to get this absinthe-pounding, groupie-loving rocker to the States in one piece. "He's trying to harness this guy, but the thing about Aldous is that he likes to have someone to party with," Stoller explains. "Aaron is excited to do that in the beginning, but he soon becomes less and less so." Considering their antics go from chugging beers in London to Aaron hiding drugs in his—well, you can guess—we can't exactly blame him.

For Stoller—who penned the script without his *Sarah Marshall* star, Segel (the two are, however, working on a new Muppets movie together)—*Get Him to the Greek* is a chance to step out of the background and prove his value to the Judd Apatow crew. But that doesn't make this sequel that's not quite a sequel any easier to describe. "It's a spin-off, but it's not," laughs the confused director. "I've been trying to find another movie like this, and the only example I can think of is *Elektra* was a spin-off of *Daredevil*." Um, let's hope he has better luck. —*Mike Olson*

Get Him to the Greek is in theaters June 4.

KARATE KID SMACKDOWN

AS A NEW VERSION HITS THEATERS, WE FIND THE TRUE KARATE KID.

	DANIEL	JULIE	DRE
ROUND 1 BACKGROUND TRAINING	Karate lessons at the YMCA	Karate lessons from Dad, a former Miyagi student	Basic karate knowledge + Detroit street cred
WINNER:	**DRE: Growing up without a father in America's most dangerous city is no easy task. Just ask Axel Foley.**		
ROUND 2 SECRET WEAPON	The crane kick: This fictional move seals the deal.	36-24-36: Miyagi's female pupil is actually a total babe.	Producing Papa: Will Smith's got Dre's back.
WINNER:	**JULIE: Fighting a hot woman can be distracting.**		
ROUND 3 ARCH-NEMESES	The Cobra Kai: a gang of California surfer dudes	The Alpha Elite: a fraternity of overeager hall monitors	The middle school bully and his uniform-clad posse
WINNER:	**DANIEL: The Cobras are mean and tough, and they fight dirty. "Sweep the Leg!"**		
ROUND 4 LESSON PLAN COMES WITH	Learning to trim bonsai trees; free car	Learning how to dance; free dress	Free tour of China
WINNER:	**DANIEL: Driving to school in a 1950 convertible is totally rad.**		

DANIEL LARUSSO
Hilary Swank may have two Oscars, and Jaden Smith sure is a cutie, but Ralph Macchio is the true Karate Kid. Wax on, you crazy diamond.

THE CHECKUP

SIFTING THROUGH THE CINEMATIC HEAP.

	GRAB YOUR FEZ	"BIG" PROBLEMS	ELABORATE OUTFITS	QUESTIONABLE FACIAL HAIR	THEY STRUGGLE TO SURVIVE	YOU STRUGGLE TO SURVIVE	OUR TAKE
PRINCE OF PERSIA: SANDS OF TIME In this video game adaptation, Jake Gyllenhaal buffs up to stop an evil ruler from unleashing an Earth-destroying sandstorm.	✕	✕	✕	✕	✕		Coming from *Pirates of the Caribbean* superproducer Jerry Bruckheimer, this one might be action-packed and funny..."might" being the operative word.
SEX AND THE CITY 2 Two years after she tied the knot with Mr. Big, Carrie and the gals reunite for more antics, including a girls-only trip to the Middle East!	✕	✕	✕		✕	✕	If you have a secret passion for cosmos and camels, this movie will be the highlight of your summer.
KILLERS A newly wed computer-tech (Katherine Heigl) learns her hubby (Ashton Kutcher) has a secret job that puts them both in grave danger.	✕	✕		✕	✕	✕	It may be hard to take Kutcher seriously in the role of a superassassin, but we'll suspend disbelief for a film that also features Tom Selleck's mustache.

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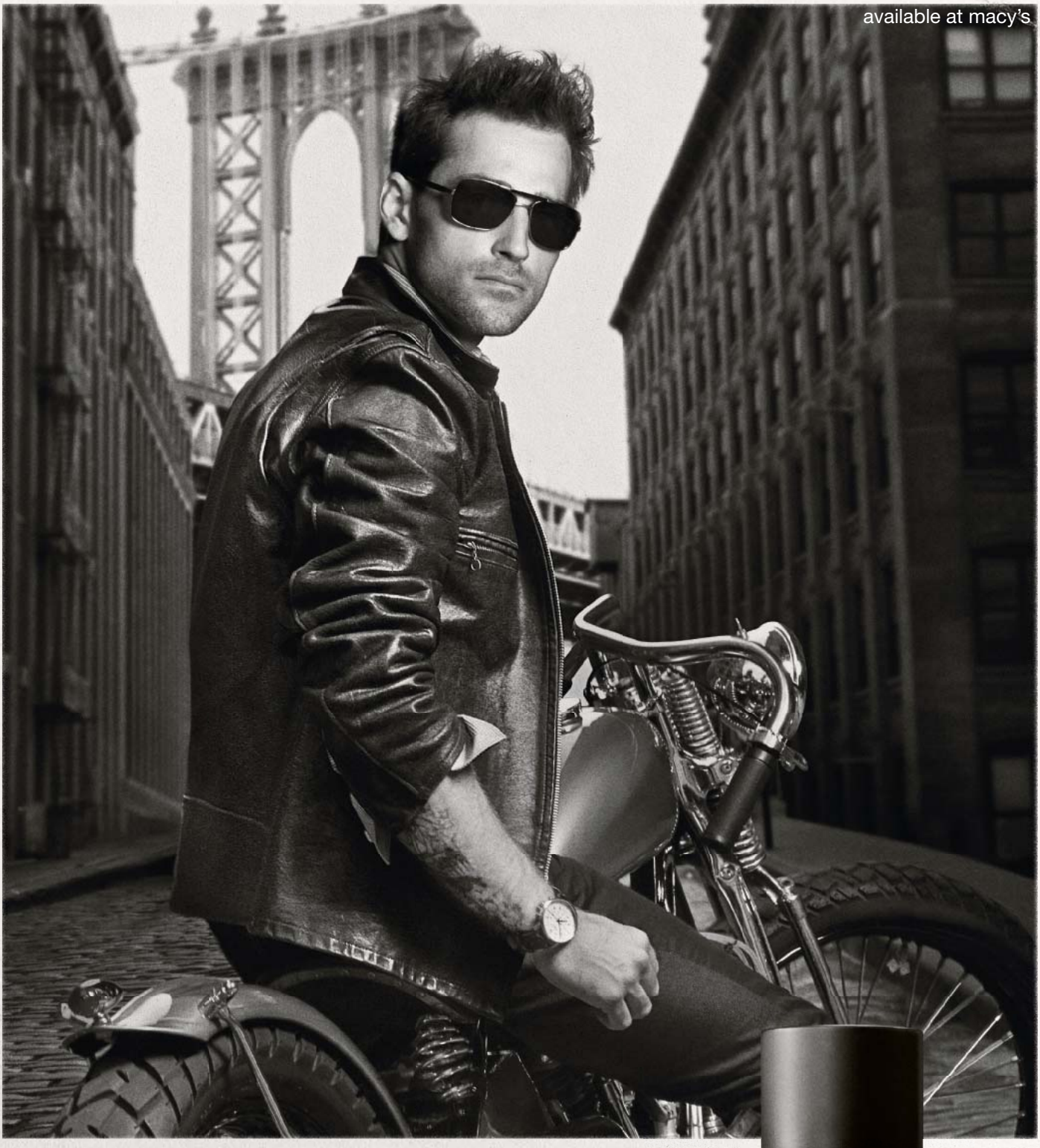

BE REMEMBERED.

—Kenneth Cole

INTRODUCING THE TIMELESS
MEN'S FRAGRANCE BY KENNETH COLE.

REBECCA MADER

Lost's stunning redhead spills all!
(On how to pick her up, that is.)

When Rebecca Mader's character, Charlotte, fell from the sky two years ago on *Lost*—now ending its final season, sniffle—the island was psyched. This season, thank God, the leggy British ex-model is out of her fatigues and into a backless dress. What happens next on the show is one of TV's biggest unknowns, but when the finale, "The End," airs on May 23, all will be revealed. Until then, a few tips for wooing her...

Just ask her out.
"Before I was an actress, if I heard someone like Jennifer Aniston say, 'No one asks me out,' I'd think, *You're famous and hot, piss off! I don't believe you.* Now that I'm an actress and I'm single, no one asks me out!"

Don't have red hair.
"It's bad enough I've got it. Why would I want to sleep with anyone who's got it?"

Plan on having breakfast.
"On *Lost*, Sawyer kicked Charlotte out of bed in one episode. If that happened to me in real life, I would've gone to the kitchen and gotten a knife. Nobody sleeps with Rebecca Mader and then kicks her out."
—Brekke Fletcher

STYLING, JESSICA MARGOLIS; HAIR AND MAKEUP, DAVID STANWELL/EXCLUSIVE ARTISTS; LOCATION, EVO LUXURY RESIDENCES IN DOWNTOWN L.A.

PHOTOGRAPH BY AUSTIN HARGRAVE

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JERSEY SCORE

TEAM U.S.A.'S ECO-FRIENDLY WORLD CUP KIT WOWS CHICKS, AGITATES BRITS.

Now that "U.S. soccer" is no longer an oxymoron—hell, they whupped top-ranked Spain two-nil last summer—it's only fitting that the team's uniform get legit. The diagonal stripe that runs down the front is a tribute to the squad that shocked England in 1950, while an internal crest behind the badge features a badass coiled rattlesnake and the letters DTOM for that classic patriots' rallying cry, "Don't tread on me." And like the other eight national team jerseys Nike is rolling out, it's crafted from recycled polyester derived from used plastic bottles, with 200 laser-cut holes engineered to keep you dry. Sure, you could just wrap yourself in an American flag to show your pride, but how moisture-wicking would that be? *$70, nike.com*
—Steve Mazzucchi

INSET PHOTO: BRIAN KLUTCH. HAIR AND MAKEUP: JORDAN LONG USING LAURA MERCIER/EXCLUSIVE ARTISTS

PHOTOGRAPH BY CHRIS SHONTING

Hard Six

A NEW MUSTANG USHERS IN THE ERA OF THE V-6 MUSCLE CAR. GIDDYUP.

THE VIEW
Chevy's Camaro may look more sinister, but its thick C-pillars are view killers. Mustang offers better sightlines of dangerous curves, female or otherwise.

UP THE FUN FACTOR
Get the manual—and opt for the performance package: You get a stiffer suspension, a wider axle ratio for quicker jumps off the line, 19-inch wheels, and a pack of three stained, sleeveless T-shirts—for under $25K.

SPEC CHECK
2011 FORD MUSTANG V-6
Price: from $22,995
Engine: 3.7-liter V-6
Torque: 280 lb.-ft. at 4,250 rpm
Horsepower: 305
0–60: 5.1 seconds

Time was, pony cars like the Mustang outfitted with anything less than a big honkin' V-8 were sheep in wolves' clothing: underpowered rides unfit to rock anything harder than some Led Zep down at the dam. With the arrival of the 2011 model, though, the game changes. At long last, even the entry-level 'Stang becomes lust-worthy, thanks to a high-revving V-6 that makes an impressive 305 hp (nearly 100 more than last year's model), a new wide-ratio six-speed gearbox that's more fun to flog, and a raft of flat-in-the-twisties suspension upgrades kicked down from last year's GT. The automatic even rates a combined 31 mpg—comparable to the stultifyingly boring four-cylinder Corolla. Drop that bit of knowledge on Ma and Pop and their demand for a more "practical" ride doesn't make as much sense. (No matter that you'll hardly ever drive in the feather-footed manner that would get you 31 mpg.) Just don't expect to see many of these at the Hertz counter: Too bad, 'cause there aren't many rides as fun to beat the hell out of as this one.—*Jesse Will*

THE GEARHEAD LUST LIST

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WATCH...
The revival of the most badass van in existence, the A-Team's customized GMC G20. (**The A-Team** hits theaters June 11.)

ILLUSTRATION BY PETER OUMANSKI

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DIGITAL DEATH
AEGIS DIGI CAMO TANTO $120

This tactical folding knife's 3½-inch blade swings open sure and easy when pulled with one hand—essential so you can keep the other hand on the lawn mower. Goddamned kids and their baseball! We dig its pixelated *Contra*-like graphics, too. sogknives.com

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JUNIOR'S HIGH

When he's not doing 200-plus on the track, **Dale Earnhardt Jr.** takes a slow ride in a Camaro.

You have four old Camaros. Do they ever leave the garage?
Of course—I drive them all the time. This is a '67 I bought at auction a few years back. It's not in perfect condition, which makes it a good daily driver. Every six months or so, I swap. My '73 is the nicest thing I own. Hell, I shouldn't even drive the damn thing, but of course I do.

Did you customize this one?
I've done just a little bit of work. It's got a new aluminum-head V-8, puts out about 420 horsepower.

And the stereo?
I put a head unit in, but no amp. I didn't really want to get away from the retro sound. I used to spend all this damn money on stereos for cars, but then I kind of got over it. This one's center speaker still works, and when you play Fleetwood Mac or some old shit, it just sounds so fucking cool.

What was the first car you loved?
The first one I ever really bought by myself was a 1991 Chevy S-10 pickup. I mean, I even thought the SEEK button on the radio was cool. Then I flipped the thing—totaled it on my way to a family reunion. I was sure my daddy would beat my ass, but he just laughed, because he did the exact same thing at 18.

Which ride do you take your dates out in?
A Camaro, easy. It's an indicator of taste. If she can appreciate a car like this, I can appreciate her.
—Jesse Will

PHOTOGRAPH BY BRENT HUMPHREYS

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BY LAURA LEU

You May Now Kiss the Bridesmaid

THE BRIDE AND GROOM AREN'T THE ONLY ONES TO SCORE ON THEIR WEDDING NIGHT.

It's a milestone in every man's life: the day he puts on his finest suit, heads to the chapel, and watches the bride glide down the aisle—just a few hours before he bangs the maid of honor. He's not the groom, after all; he's a guest. And a wedding is not only a celebration of the promise between man and wife—it's also a hookup bonanza.

Consider the basics of any matrimonial celebration: Love is in the air, booze is on the tongue, and everyone is looking their best. Add to that the pall of loneliness cast over many single ladies who've been waiting their entire lives to take someone—*anyone*—in sickness and in health and you've got a roomful of women so hopped up on romance and

Screw now or forever hold your peace.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY TOM CORBETT

desperation that they're primed for sex—with or without the commitment.

TYING THE NOT

For the unattached girl, attending a wedding can be a bummer. "It's tough to watch two people commit for life and not think, Why hasn't anyone liked me enough to do that?" says Bethany*, 31. "It stokes the fires of insecurity—which makes you more susceptible to come-ons." Of course, that plays in your favor. "I can't believe the kinds of guys I've screwed at weddings," says Petra, 29. "One was a catering waiter who looked like he'd just graduated high school. I bummed a smoke from him outside the reception hall kitchen, and we did it against the wall, next to a Dumpster. There should be a clinical term for this, like 'temporary slut-sanity.'"

A less obvious cause for women's wedding-based hormone surges: the desire to *celebrate* singleness. "Right as my best friend was promising to obey her husband, I started searching for a sympathetic eye to shoot a 'thank God that's not us' look," says Alice, 28. "Everyone was glued on the bride and groom except for one of his coworkers. At the cocktail hour we laughed about our mutual fear of commitment—then stole two bottles of bubbly and headed to his hotel Jacuzzi."

PRE-WEDDING PREP

Temporary slut-sanity aside, it may take more than a fleeting look to get laid at a wedding, so kick off your scouting mission the moment an invitation appears in your mailbox. For one friend's wedding, 31-year-old Kate scoped out the husband-to-be's Facebook page. "I made a mental note of a cute guy who appeared in a lot of photos," she says. "I asked my friend to seat me at his table, and that's where I put the full-court press on him." Kate's hardcore flirting was reciprocated, and soon the sexual tension had them ditching the event. "Halfway through the night he pulled me into an empty ballroom for a make-out session that led to a night of unadulterated screwing."

"You're right, this is a horrible dress. You should tear it off."

KNOW YOUR CEREMONY

The odds of consummating someone else's marriage depends on what kind of wedding it is. A good rule of thumb: The farther you travel, the shorter your route to sex. Since destination weddings are usually days long and held in a tropical paradise, the wedding group has a lot of time to get to know each other. Some end up being just one wet T-shirt shy of a spring-break party. "I went to a wedding at an all-inclusive resort in Mexico, and it was like a drunken orgy," says Cindy, 25. "I had sex with two guys from our group one night after the other."

There is another type of sexually charged ceremony that you should always attend if given the opportunity: the theme wedding. Whether it's *Star Wars*– or zombie-inspired, any woman who's willing to dress as Princess Leia or an undead for a formal occasion will likely be open-minded in the sack. "The weirdest and most awesome wedding I ever went to was Disney-themed—all the guests wore Mickey Mouse ears, and the wedding party was a mix of Prince Charmings and Cinderellas," says 25-year-old Cheri. "The fact that everyone was in costume gave it a naughty feel, like a masquerade ball. I ended up in Prince Charming's bed that night."

MANAGE THE GUEST LIST

So who's your best bet for postnuptial nookie? Bridesmaids can be a difficult get, since they're usually spending all their time with the wedding party. So aim lower on the guest hierarchy. Gloria, 27, was the dreaded "guest-book attendant" at her cousin's wedding. "I had to stand outside the ballroom and ask people to sign the thing," she says. "But I felt somewhat redeemed when a cute guy ditched the hors d'oeuvres to hang out with me. When my duties were over, I took him to my car, where we smoked a joint and fooled around in the backseat. Much more fun than the chicken dance."

Whatever (or whomever) you do, don't mess around with a family member of the bride or groom. If you break her heart, you could break your friendship. Same goes for the bride's BFFs: They're girls you're likely to see again—an awkward aftermath that affects women as often as men. "I let my friend's husband's best buddy tie me up and spank me after their reception," says Sarah, 31. "A week later he moved a block from the happy couple, so every time they invited me over, there he was. We were both so uncomfortable that we stopped seeing our friends."

CELEBRATE TRADITIONS

The easiest way to make women flock to you is simply to act like you're having the time of your life. That means getting your ass out on the dance floor for an enthusiastic if goofy electric slide. Another lady-luring tradition? The wedding toast, which, when done well, combines all the qualities that make women melt: confidence (speaking in public), sensitivity (expressing your feelings), and sense of humor (making jokes). Just be smart—no cracks about the groom's legendary porn collection.

If you do end up meeting that special woman, popping the question can be as simple as asking, "Do you want to take a walk?" It worked on Liz, 32, while she was dancing with a guy at a wedding in Jamaica. They strolled along the beach, made out, then went to his bungalow to celebrate the bonds of holy mattress-moaning. ●

BEST GUEST LIST

HERE'S HOW TO SNAG THE WEDDING ATTENDEE OF YOUR DREAMS.

BACHELORETTE	PROFILE	PROPOSAL
Hot, single bridesmaid	There's typically just one. She's toned, tanned, and totally out of reach.	"Being a bridesmaid seems tough! Wanna go smoke this joint that has just enough weed for two people?"
Catering girl	Underneath that cheap tuxedo vest is a lady who has no emotional stake in the day's event. Jackpot!	"Do you have any extra helpings of meat? No? Do you want one?"
Nondenominational wedding officiant	When her ecclesiastical robe comes off, all hell breaks loose.	"How 'bout I make like Pontius Pilate and nail you?"
Former high school crush	By now she's dated enough losers to figure out that you're not so much of a loser after all.	"Remember ninth-grade biology? Ha-ha-ha, let's have sex."

*SOME NAMES HAVE BEEN CHANGED. STYLING, DON SUMADA/B-A REPS; HAIR: RIAD AZAR USING L'ORÉAL PROFESSIONNEL; MAKEUP, JULIE TOMLINSON USING DIOR/B-A REPS; BOUQUET, ELIZABETH RYAN FLORAL; LOCATION, THOMPSON HOTEL LES; DRESS BY BEBE

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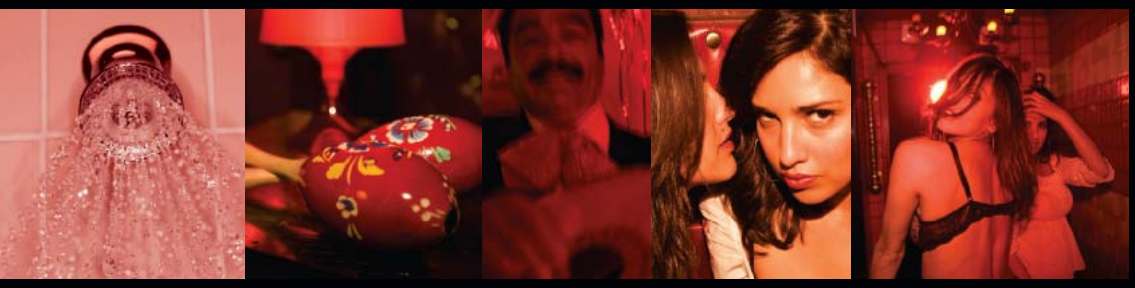

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BY JOSHUA DAVID STEIN

MMA vs. Ballet

ONE'S A THING OF BRUTALITY; THE OTHER, BEAUTY. WHICH TAKES TOUGHER STUFF? WE SENT OUR FEARLESS REPORTER TO FIND OUT.

For the past month I've lived as a man in tights. In the interests of physical fitness, blood lust, vanity, and investigative journalism, I've spent two weeks getting my butt kicked by Brazilian jujitsu experts and two more weeks getting my ass handed to me by skinny, uptight girls in a ballet studio. Which discipline demands a tougher training regimen? A few bloody noses, a blown-out knee, and 23 ice packs later, I'm ready to answer.

PART ONE: MMA

Mixed martial arts is fast becoming the national obsession that boxing once was. The sport's popularity is mostly thanks to Brazil's Carlos Gracie Sr.: In 1916, Gracie began developing Gracie Jiu-Jitsu, based on techniques taught to him by Mitsuya Maeda, a Japanese judoka. Many of Gracie's descendants are now UFC stars, and nearly all are in the family business. I headed to Manhattan's Renzo Gracie Jiu-Jitsu Academy to study with the best.

MMA DAY 1: MAT MEAT

Ductwork and fluorescent lights: That's my view for most of my first night at the Gracie gym. These particular ducts carry air to an office building in Manhattan, but this basement, these walls, the claustrophobic pain of asphyxiation, could be anywhere in the world where mixed martial arts has taken hold. Right now MMA has taken hold of me in the form of Gabriel, the fat man who's wrenching his wrist into my neck, trying to cut off my airflow. Happily, Gabriel's a beginner: I can still breathe. So as Gabriel's shirt opens to reveal a hovering man-boob, I wrap my legs around his waist and hook my heels. Not knowing what to do next, I squeeze until time runs out, and Gabriel, exhausted, collapses on top of me. His breath smells like cold cuts.

MMA DAY 3: ON STRIKE

While the heart of MMA may be ground-level grappling, it's critical to be able to deliver a knee to the head or a fist to the chin. To learn how, I'm taking a lesson in Muay Thai, traditional Thai boxing. If Western boxing is a square, Thai boxing is a cube. There are exponentially more dimensions: fists, elbows, knees, shins, feet. Today I kick at the ribs of Chancey, a chiseled black dude and fellow student, as if he just dissed my sister. He didn't. He's very nice. I start with a flurry of punches, then launch my knee into his abdomen. This feels great—for about five minutes. Then I'm dead tired. Chancey takes over and quickly dispatches me with kicks. I leave class with my forearms bruised purple.

MMA DAY 10: WRESTLEMANIA

Wrestling is the third major element of MMA; it's how you drop your opponent to the mat. For the fundamentals, I head uptown to Columbia University, home of the feared Lions. Inside their baby blue padded cell of a practice room, Carl Fronhofer, a member of the U.S. national freestyle wrestling team, explains how I'm meant to take down Andrew Arboleda, a 24-year-old national team hopeful. "The most important thing is to change levels fast to get past his hands, then explode through," says Fronhofer. Arboleda is proving elusive, driving his legs back every time I dart in. Finally I grab his knees and pile-drive him to the mat. My nuts and his knees meet violently. I spend the rest of the practice pretending not to be in intense pain while Arboleda tosses me around the (now swimming) baby blue room.

MMA DAY 14: LAST STAND

Back at the Gracie Academy, the instructions that started as gibberish and ended in pain are beginning to make sense. I'm still no good, and after two weeks my uniform is dotted with blood. Most is mine, but some isn't. I can kick without tipping over and punch without losing my balance. My last partner is a serious Asian guy wearing

PHOTOGRAPHS BY MATTHEW SALACUSE

ear guards. As he tries to choke me out, I'm able to reverse him, wrapping my legs under one of his arms and over the other. By golly, I think I've got a triangle choke! His head is turning red. Two weeks ago I would have let go, but tonight his grimace and hue just encourage me. I squeeze. His face turns to a worrisome scarlet. Finally I feel an insistent tap on my leg. I release my grip, and the guy gasps for breath. I may not be in the Octagon, but I'm one step closer.

PART TWO: BALLET

Pumped and aggro from two weeks of fighting, I'm ready to beat the fuck out of ballet. Could jumping up and down and looking pretty really be as tough as fighting a guy with tribal tattoos? I am, perhaps, cocky. Having danced a bit in college—what? I was young and open-minded!—I know the basic vocabulary: plié means bend, tendu means stretch, pirouette means turn. But it's with trepidation and sudden body dysmorphia that I enter the dance studio.

BALLET DAY 1: LEOTARDED

I may have left MMA training in the best shape of my life, but during my first ballet class at Manhattan's Dance New Amsterdam, I'm a lost cause. I try not to grimace, but the thick canvas rope between my butt cheeks is a wedgie of fire. The rope is part of my dance belt, a sadistic undergarment that turns one's lumpy junk into a smooth bulge. To make matters worse, I'm surrounded by beautiful, skinny, bendy women looking at me like I'm a pervert. But between the seemingly random steps and catching sight of myself wearing hot pants, I'm dead on my feet. I hang on until the end of class and then wade onto the street, dance belt in backpack, and mutter a MacArthur-like, "I shall return."

BALLET DAY 2: MASTER CLASS

Fighters watch fights to prepare, so why should dancers be any different? My wife and I head to Lincoln Center to see *Jewels*, by the New York City Ballet. Jesus. Those *ballerinos* somehow make tights and sequins look manly. One of them, Benjamin Millepied, is dating Natalie Portman, for chrissakes. I resolve to be more like them.

BALLET DAY 5: GOOD LOOK

Back at class the pianist—an old Russian émigré—is playing Dylan's "Mama, You Been on My Mind" during the adagio, when you stand in the center of the room and raise your legs (hypothetically) higher than 90 degrees into the air while keeping them straight. I, of course, wobble on one leg and flail, but I'm slowly refining my spasms into something approximating ballet. A hot Danish girl smiles at me; she's a visa student. Maybe she's not even Danish. Anyway, she smiles. I thank Dylan.

BALLET DAY 8: THE HURT

After training for just over a week, two hours a day, I know enough to get through class. Do I do it well? No, but I've learned that ballet is all about making the incredibly painful look easy. And the more I know how to do, the more aggravated my body becomes. At a certain point my left knee gives out. It's actually not that uncommon, Adam Hendrickson, a soloist at the New York City Ballet, tells me: "Ballet is harmful to your body. It's physically, permanently harmful." I walk it off and ice like a motherfucker at home.

BALLET DAY 14: AIR SHOW

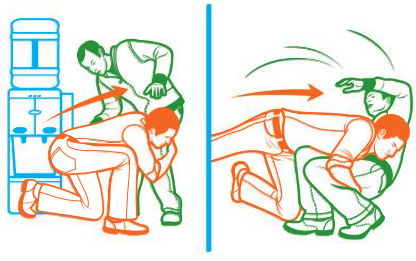
For my last class I decide to try the big leagues. I hit the hoity-toity Steps on Broadway, an uptown studio where—I've been told—bitches be cuttin' other bitches for a spot. But unlike my downtown class, there are a lot of dudes here. Immediately, my heart quickens, and those feelings of aggression, all but forgotten from MMA, come flooding back: I want to beat these ass clowns. I can't help but see one towheaded youth in a leotard as competition. During the final part of class, I get my chance. The pianist is beating Beethoven's 7th Symphony to holy hell on the upright. We leap into the air. I catch sight of us airborne in the mirror. He may be doing the move "correctly," but I'm higher, by several inches. Fuck, yes!

END GAME

Over the past month, I've been punched in the face and kneed in the balls. I've leaped across rooms and lifted my leg. What have I learned? Look up some local classes in either of these disciplines if you want to beat your body into shape post-haste. Both are brutal. In MMA every weakness of yours is your opponent's advantage, and you'll pay dearly for it. But it's natural, man versus man. The rules of ballet, on the other hand, are man-made and crazy; it's your muscles against themselves. Which takes tougher stuff? I think it's ballet, where the weight of failure rests only on one's own shoulders. The girls in class aren't so bad to look at, either. ●

MOVES YOU CAN USE

MMA: ESCAPE AN AWKWARD CONVERSATION AT THE WATER COOLER WITH A DOUBLE-LEG TAKEDOWN!

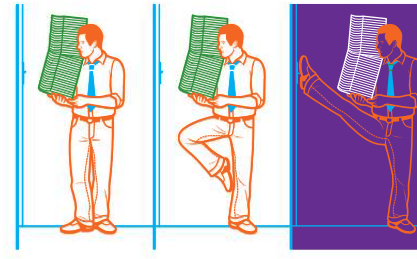


1. Crouch and shoot at your coworker with your front foot. Let your heel, then toe, then knee hit the floor.

2. Clasp your hands behind his legs, above the back of his knees. Step your back leg to his side. Wedge your head close to his hip.

3. Stand up and drive your colleague up and to the side, away from your head. Say, "This conversation is over."

BALLET: TURN OFF A LIGHT SWITCH EVER SO GRACEFULLY WITH YOUR TOES...USING THE DEVELOPPÉ!



1. While standing with your feet turned out, shift weight to your standing leg while keeping your hips level.

2. Draw the foot of the opposite leg up until the toe of that foot is just touching the side of your kneecap. Your legs should look like a 4.

3. Unfurl that leg to the side, toe pointed straight. Keep your standing leg straight. Hit the switch.

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BY AZIZ ANSARI

Not a great way to answer the door on a first date.

KITCHEN TEST DUMMY

ACTOR AND COMEDIAN **AZIZ ANSARI** GOES BEHIND THE SCENES IN ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S MOST INVENTIVE RESTAURANTS TO SEE HOW THE NASTIEST PART OF A BEAST CAN BECOME THE TASTIEST PART OF A FEAST.

I'm a small man, but deep inside me lives the heart of a fatso. I love eating. I plan my days around food. I make decisions about what to eat with the amount of thought regular people put into how many kids they want.

One of my favorite restaurants in L.A., Animal, has a menu filled with delicious words that appeal to fatsos, like *quail fry, pork belly, poutine,* and *foie gras.* There's even a dessert made with bacon. The first time I talked about food with Animal's chefs and owners, Jon Shook and Vinny Dotolo, sometimes known as "the Food Dudes," I could tell that deep inside they had inner fatsos, just like me. In fact, thanks to their recommendations, on a recent trip to Tokyo I ate stuff like chicken knees, which were weird but undeniably delicious.

When I got back to L.A., I had to thank the Food Dudes. But I also wanted to know more about exactly how chefs are able to take something that seems strange or disgusting, like eyeball or neck or heart, and turn it into something tasty and memorable. One of Animal's most popular dishes, a pig's ear appetizer with chili, lime, and a fried egg, seems to epitomize this idea. So I asked Jon and Vinny, fatso to fatsos, if they'd show me how they make it.

The first thing the guys did on the afternoon I visited the restaurant was introduce me to a huge box of pig's ears. They're shipped in from a farm whose name I can't remember, but I'm pretty sure the farm was supposed to be dope and treat animals properly and shit. Apparently, the pigs have tennis courts and a lake where they can get on pig Jet Skis and just wile out. OK, that last part isn't true, but the animals are treated well.

Jon and Vinny work with farmers they like to get what are known in the food industry as "off cuts" of meat—things like lamb necks and chicken livers—mostly because they're typically less expensive than more famil-

PHOTOGRAPHS BY EMILY SHUR

iar cuts like shanks and breasts. "We've actually got some veal testicles we're playing with right now," Jon says. I wasn't ready to jump in and play with veal balls quite yet, so we focused instead on the pig's ears.

When we took the ears out, they were cold and pink and about as big as my face. They were also covered with tiny hairs, so Jon and Vinny said we had to shave them with razors. I tried to use Nair on a few of the ears, but this technique was not well-received.

If I were making pig's ear at home, the next step would be to boil them up for a while. For an hour, you ask? Two? Five? Nope. Try 36 *hours*. To put it in perspective, you could cook 617 bowls of Velveeta Shells & Cheese in that same amount of time. So, make sure you have some activities planned. I'd recommend maybe getting all five seasons of the HBO series *The Wire* on DVD and watching that while it boils. Even if you've seen it before, rewatching *The Wire* is a treat.

Why so much boiling? "A pig's ear is skin wrapped around cartilage," Jon explains. "Cartilage never really breaks down, so you have to boil the ears for a long time to soften it." In fact, it took the dudes a while to learn just how long. "When we started working with pig's ears, actually, we didn't like them," Jon says. "Then we went and visited a chef in Nashville who makes them, Tandy Wilson from City House, and his were so good! He said, 'When you think they're done, cook 'em for another six hours.' At that point we'd already been boiling them for 24 hours, but we added another 10 hours or so on there, and it finally came together."

Luckily, on the day I was there, the Animal guys had done the boiling in advance, so we were ready to move on. All we had to do was pull them from the pot and dump out the boiled ear-juice. (A good tip for home cooks: If there's an intruder in your kitchen trying to stab you, you can take the pot of boiling water and throw it in his face, then beat him with the pot if need be.) We patted them dry and let them cool a little.

The next part is where the real transformation of the pig's ears begins—through a little process you may be familiar with called frying. We sliced the ears into thin strips, then dunked those bad boys into 350-degree oil until they were all nice and crispy and all the bubbles around each strip had stopped bubbling. (Again, if an intruder busts in and you need to act fast, you can take the intruder's hand and shove it into the hot oil and then beat him with the pan. Hopefully, though, you won't have to deal with this, because it would be a real bitch to have to do 36 more hours of pig's-ear boiling.) Soon our ear strips were starting to look like teeny-tiny pieces of bacon.

The true challenge of this dish comes while the ears are frying, though, because that's when you've got to simultaneously make the fried egg. And fried eggs are tougher to make than you might think, so don't get smug about it. The key, the guys explained, is to place the egg right in the center of the pan and cook it gently enough that the yolk stays a little runny. I fucked this up, but Vinny had my back. (Which means he cooked a new egg for our dish.)

When the ears were done frying, we immediately got to seasoning them, since they absorb the most flavor when they're hot. We sprinkled them with salt and then tossed them in some lime juice, chili paste, and fresh chopped scallions.

The final step on the road to stuffing your face is to take your egg and lightly place it over the ears—I fucked this up, too—then season it with a little more salt. This is how the dish is served to you at Animal, but back in the kitchen the fellows drizzled it with a little secret extra ingredient: maple syrup. "When people come to the restaurant," Jon says, "they're expecting the dish to be the same each time. But back in the kitchen, when you're eating the same thing for months, you start to tweak it out in different ways." I ate it this way and couldn't recommend it more—crunchy, tender, spicy, and sweet all in one bite.

So there you have it. With just a little love (and 36 *hours* of boiling, y'all), what started out as nasty, floppy, hairy pig's ear became crispy, savory bits of awesomeness. I hope you enjoy your own plate of pig's ear sometime soon. If you have an inner fatso like me—or are just an outer fatso—I promise you'll love it. ●

Top: This little piggy's ears just got a haircut at the hands of amateur knife wielder Aziz Ansari; the chefs add chili, lime, and scallions to the just-fried slices of ear. **Bottom:** In the final step, a fried egg is placed gently over the seasoned strips of pig's ears; Aziz displays the complete dish.

EAT, PRAY, BARF

THINK PIG'S EAR IS WEIRD? TRY ONE OF THESE DELICACIES SERVED IN SOME OF THE WORLD'S FINEST RESTAURANTS.

COCKSCOMBS
Incanto, San Francisco
Chef Chris Cosentino has served up a stew that includes duck tongue and that wobbly, tough-skinned little crown torn from the top of a rooster's head. Cock-a-doodle-*ew*.

PIG'S HEAD
St. John, London
Pig's head and potato pie is a specialty of Chef Fergus Henderson, whose book, *Nose to Tail Eating*, reintroduced the world to the idea of eating whole animals: brains, balls, and all.

SCORPIONS
Typhoon, Santa Monica
Venomous predators are no big deal when they're fried up and served on shrimp toast! Also on the restaurant's tasty insect menu: crickets and silkworm larvae.

CHICKEN SASHIMI
Toriki, Tokyo
Salmonella, schmalmonella! At this Japanese yakitori spot, chefs break down a chicken carcass to order, slicing up raw bird bits right in front of your gape-mouthed Western face.

LIVE BABY EELS
Le Bernardin, New York City
The still-squirming critters are dropped into a pan of hot oil and served to VIPs at $100 a plate. They're said to be very salty, probably from their tiny baby eel tears.

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Victoria's Sexiest Secret

Our favorite VS Angel and *Celebrity Apprentice* star, Selita Ebanks, blesses us with her heavenly body. Prepare to pop your bottle with this supermodel.

By Mike Dawson

Photographs by Chris Fortuna

(Opening spread) **Mara Hoffman** swimsuit, **Walter Steiger** shoes, **Ben Amun** earrings, **Patricia Field** bracelet. (Top) **Coco de Mer** bra, **Cosabella** panties, **Patricia Field** leggings, **Walter Steiger** shoes, **Ben Amun** jewelry. (Bottom) **Deborah Marquit** checkered lingerie, **Coco de Mer** bra, **Walter Steiger** shoes, **Ben Amun** earrings.

Who has the weirdest hair on *The Celebrity Apprentice*: the Donald, Rod Blagojevich, or Bret Michaels?
They're all special in their own way. Bret wears a hat, but his hair is really shiny and silky. I was going to ask him where he got it, but I was afraid it might actually be real. With Donald, I think it's his hair and he just combs it over. He doesn't want to let it go. Blago's was just crazy thick. It's wild—you can't even see any scalp.

Off-camera, did Blago get all skeezy, like, "Hey, baby girl, ever do it gubernatorial-style?"
No! Please. He knows he'd get hurt if he did. I mean, everything that came out of his mouth seemed planned out, premeditated. It was hard to get a grasp of who he was.

How did it feel to get fired?
I obviously wanted to win for my charity, but it was kind of fun. What's funny is after Donald fires you, they ask if you want to speak to a staff psychologist. I cracked up and said, "Where the fuck is my car?" I had a Victoria's Secret show to go do! Cyndi Lauper said it best: "People, it's a freakin' TV show."

Being a VS Angel, your underwear drawer must be stuffed.
Oh, honey, it's not just a drawer. I have a giant boudoir of nothing but panties and bras. It's kind of crazy. What's your favorite style?

Gulp...all of them. What do you have on now?
I'm wearing this cute mesh G-string with skinny little straps. I like G-strings and boy shorts best. I like boy shorts because they have the butt cleavage, and they leave a little to the imagination. Sexy. Crotchless panties are sexy, though those aren't getting any use these days. It's been a long time.

Wait, you're single?!
Very single, and like I said, it's been a long time. I'm like a virgin-virgin all over again.

So how can a guy date you?
I like diamonds and all that, but I don't need that shit. You don't have to be rich, just driven and always trying to be better. If you're striving to be a better man, I'm going to try to be a better woman. Success breeds success. If I'm at work all day and you're at home scratching your ass watching Jerry Springer, that's not going to work. Again, you don't need to be rich, but I don't want to pay for the trip to St. Bart's *every* time.

Give us a crazy poppin'-bottles-with-models moment.
Well, I've slowed way down, but a few years back at this party, women were dancing on the tables, and this guy we were with says, "I'm hungry. Let's fly to Morocco for dinner." So we went to the airport, boarded a private jet, and took the party to Morocco. We ate dinner and flew right back. Crazy. My dad doesn't even know that story. ●

STYLING, LYSA COOPER/BRYDGES MACKINNEY; HAIR, MAX PINNELL/BUMBLE & BUMBLE/SEE MANAGEMENT; MAKEUP, PAUL INNIS/WARREN-TRICOMI ARTIST MANAGEMENT/AVON COSMETICS

"I'm very single, and it's been a long time."

16 ANIMALS WE WISH

Your handy guide to the most evil, perverse, stupid, and generally pointless results of Mother Nature's semiregular crack binges.*

by Nick Leftley
illustrations by Matthew Volz

SECTION 1: PERVERTS

Bed Bugs: Rough Sex

They procreate through "traumatic insemination," meaning the male doesn't bother looking for the female's "special entrance," opting instead to use his spiked penis to stab her and then screw the hole. Ah, romance.

Porcupines: Water Sports

Nothing turns a chick porcupine on like a golden shower. Males drench 'em in urine from up to six feet away, and if she likey, it's go time. If not, she bolts. Ladies... it's piss! Don't be so picky!

Sea Hares: Daisy-Chaining

Sporting both male and female sex organs, they'll often link up, with the first one playing the male, the last one the female, and the poor bastards in the middle playing both. It's like that night in Vegas that you and your buddies agreed to never, ever talk about.

Bald Ibis: Useless Scrounger

Prone to frequently getting lost and/or crash-landing, it also has poor stamina and, according to researchers, is just too damn fat and lazy to fly. It thrives when looked after in zoos, but out in the wild it's hopeless. It's nature's practical joke on well-meaning wildlife preservationists.

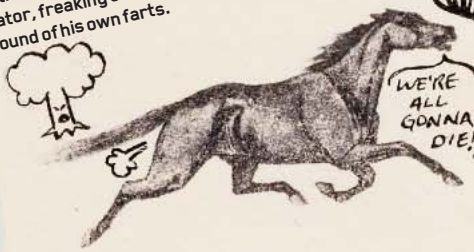
SECTION 2: IDIOTS

Octopus Vulgaris: Self-Cannibalism

Taking fingernail-biting to a whole new level, the octo-idiot chews off limbs to rid itself of viral infections. If the limb grows back infected, it'll keep at it until it dies (just like Kirstie Alley stuck in an elevator).

Horse: Evolution's Simpleton

It's strong and fast with no natural predators, but for some reason (read: it's a fricking idiot) it remains utterly unaware of this, reacting to every noise and movement like a twitchy kidnapper in his fifth straight day of bargaining with the hostage negotiator, freaking out at the sound of his own farts.



Honeybee: Suicide Humper

After mating, the male's endophallus (or "bee dong") gets ripped off, leaving him to crawl off and die. Even after watching it happen to 20 of his buddies, he'll still go for it, in the bee equivalent of going home with Lorena Bobbitt to check out her scissor collection.

Dolphin: Penis Grabber

In 1991 a 39-year-old Englishman went for an unwanted swim after a dolphin grabbed him with its freakishly long, flexible wang and towed him helplessly through the water. No wonder they're always so happy.

WERE EXTINCT

* Unfortunately, no animals were harmed during the creation of this story.

SECTION 3: BASTARDS

Japanese Giant Hornet: Flesh Dissolver

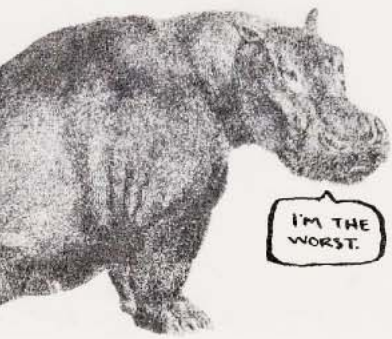
The horrid hornet delivers a poison that'll melt the skin off your hand. Forty people die each year because of its flesh-melting hobby.

Brazilian Wandering Spider: Boner Jam

Injects venom that causes agonizing erections that can be treated only by puncturing the penis and draining the stagnant blood. Asshole!

Reef Stonefish: Vacation Killjoy

Sits and waits for folks to step on it, thereby poisoning their central nervous systems. Victims beg for the affected limbs to be amputated. Happy now, fish?



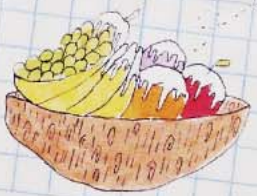
Hippopotamus: Angry Jerk

It'll happily charge down and CHEW THE LEGS OFF OF ANYONE, killing more than 200 every year. To add to its pointlessly unpleasant nature, it marks its territory with poop it sprays around with its twirling tail.

Argonaut Octopus: Sneaking Wang

There are few things as disturbing and downright wrong as the mating ritual of the argonaut octopus. When a male sees a sexy lady octopus, a modified arm loaded with sperm explodes from his body and swims, by itself, toward her, finding its own way and delivering its payload. Spooning is not in the cards for this creep.

SECTION 4: NIGHTMARES



Fruit Fly: Giant Tadpole

What's so nightmarish about this harmless-looking insect? Simple: It produces a sperm that's 20 times the length of its body. Before you shrug that off, picture yourself unleashing a sperm 120 feet long. Now stop trying...

Honey Badger: Satan's Minion

Sounds cute, doesn't it? It's not. It's a nightmare. Besides clearing out bees' nests by farting into them, it's also insanely violent. It routinely destroys animals like lions and buffalo by charging headlong at the enemy's scrotum and tearing it off with its teeth.

Naked Mole Rat: Nature's Accident

There's nothing too awful about it as such—it doesn't spread disease and isn't considered a pest—but just look at it! Thank you, Mother Nature, for showing us what our cock would look like if it grew a pair of fangs.

BORN CROSS-EYED! WITH HIS SKEWED VIEW OF THE WORLD, DAVID CROSS HAS BEEN CRACKING UP FANS—AND FELLOW COMEDIANS—FOR TWO DECADES. IS HE READY FOR HIS CLOSEUP?

BY JOSH EELLS PHOTOGRAPHS BY CHRIS BUCK

COMEDIAN DAVID CROSS WAS WORKING ON A NEW TV SHOW IN LONDON RECENTLY. *SO, DAVID, HOW'D YOU LIKE IT?*

"As a whole," he says, clutching a mug of coffee in his Manhattan living room, "I think the people there are kind of shitty. Also, it shuts down early, so unless you want to take the night bus—which I do *not* recommend—you have to be on the tube by 12:15. The pubs all close at 11. And it's really expensive. Like, really, really, *really* expensive."

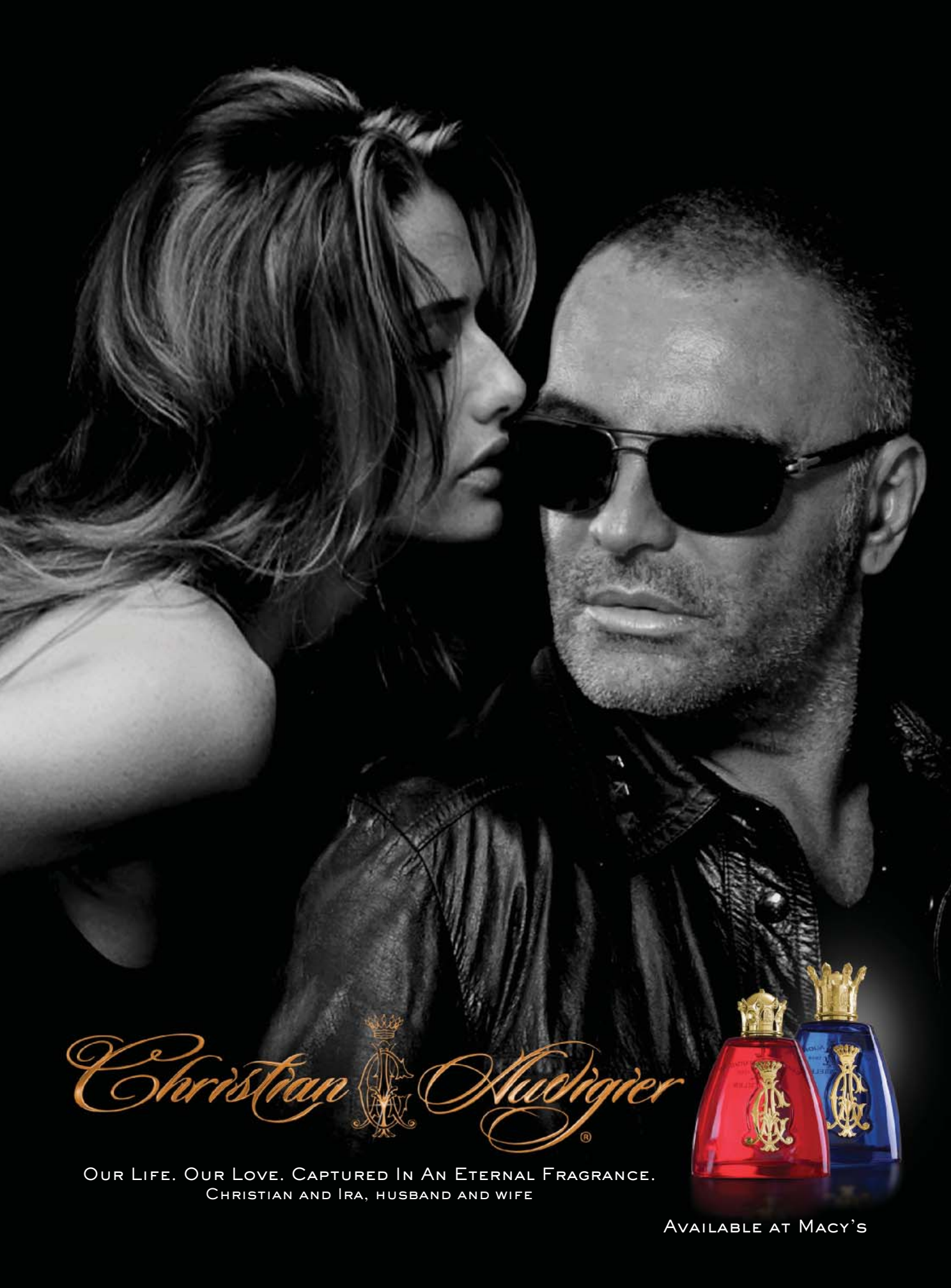
A pause.

"But it's a beautiful city," he says. "Beats L.A., that's for sure."

Sometimes it's tough being a glass-half-full kind of guy. But give David Cross credit: He's trying.

On a gray, rainy Monday, Cross, 46, is stretched out on a couch in his East Village co-op, sporting rumpled khakis, a zip-up hoodie, his trademark black bifocals, and a faded gray T-shirt that matches his beard. The apartment is appointed with all the hallmarks of fortysomething hipsterdom: Whole Foods grocery bags, Kiehl's bath products, piles of CDs. In a spare bedroom there's a *Rock Band* drum kit, and on one wall hangs an (ironic?) oil painting of Michael Jackson with Ronald and Nancy Reagan. Curled up at Cross' feet is his favorite possession of all: an adorable mutt named Ollie Red Sox. (Cross grew up in Atlanta but is a Boston fan.) "I fucked up and spoiled her early on," he says, sweeping a clump of brown fur from the couch. "Now she does what she wants."

To a generation of comedy nerds, Cross is an icon, a pioneer of the kind of left-field absurdism still earning belly laughs in nightclubs and megaplexes. (Think Zach Galifianakis, Tim and Eric, Dane Cook. OK, not Dane Cook.) Yet it's hard to think of a funnyman who's had a longer string of rotten professional luck. Cross' 1992 entrée into Hollywood, writing for *The Ben Stiller Show* alongside a young Judd Apatow, ended



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when Fox killed the show after half a season. *Mr. Show*, the game-changing sketch series he created with his friend Bob Odenkirk, ran for a comparatively epic 30 episodes before HBO pulled the plug. A *Mr. Show* movie, called *Run Ronnie Run!*, never saw theatrical release. By these standards *Arrested Development*—the late, lamented Fox sitcom on which Cross played the jeans-shorts-clad, possibly closeted "analrapist" (short for analyst-therapist) Dr. Tobias Fünke—was a smash, lasting three whole seasons before the network dumped it in 2006.

"He was pretty depressed for a while," says his good friend, *Vice* magazine founder Gavin McInnes, who met Cross when he hired him to write grouchy, Andy Rooney–esque rants. "He's got a lot of anger, and he enjoys confrontation. I think that puts a lot of people off."

Cross' newest project, his third CD of stand-up for indie-rock tastemakers Sub Pop Records, is unlikely to change this fact. Called *Bigger and Blackerer*, it's vintage Cross—60 minutes of acerbic, misanthropic glee. Here he is on opponents of health-care reform: "I don't *want* you to have health care. I want you to *die*." On climate change (and religion): "You know who I think the true victims of global warming are? Orthodox Jews. Because wintertime is the only time those people don't look *absolutely ridiculous*." And on race, from a bit where he says he wants to get a Martin Luther King license plate personalized to read NGR LVR: "It'd be confusing, I think. People would go, '*Hey, what the—well, huh...*'"

"I get comments," Cross says. "You know—I'm a prick, I'm an asshole. I don't know how many times I've had a journalist say, 'I told my friend I was going to interview you, and he said, 'Careful—that guy's a dick.'"

(He's not exaggerating. A day earlier I told a friend I was going to interview Cross. His response? "I heard he's kind of a dick.")

For the record: David Cross is not a dick. He's definitely complicated—an atheist Jew from the South who makes his living (in part) mocking Southerners and Jews; perhaps the only performer in history to cash checks from Kurt Cobain's label and *Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel*. But he's also warm and polite, loves animals, and answers the door with a handshake and a hot coffee. Friends say he's thoughtful and generous to a fault—he'll do things like take a big group on vacation, pick up the entire tab, then feel guilty about it and donate the same amount to charity. "My wife and I were considering making him godfather to our children," McInnes jokes, "but then we remembered he doesn't give a shit about kids."

Cross is in his kitchen now, talking real estate. He used to love this neighborhood, but lately he wants out. "Fridays and Saturdays, it's the fucking French Quarter down there. Frat dude central." He points to the housing project across the street. "That place is even worse: 3 A.M.—'Yo, yo, yo! Shaniqua! Throw the keys down!'" He nods toward his refrigerator, 100 percent serious. "I keep eggs in there for times like that."

David Cross—has there ever been a comic whose name suited him better? It feels so right it could be made up—like Megan Fox or the vasectomy doctor named Dick Chopp. (Google it.) Onscreen his characters tend toward the neurotic and weird, but onstage he's a first-rate crank, raging righteously against hypocrisy, stupidity, and moral injustice. Politically, he's solidly on the left, slamming homophobic bigots and pro-life zealots. But he's also pro-death penalty and calls the Koran "a violent tome" and its adherents "suspect"—although that probably says more about his antipathy toward organized religion, which he thinks is pretty much the biggest crock ever.

Whether he's skewering abusive priests or Larry the Cable Guy, Cross' comedy is defined by two basic tenets: a cynical view of power and a fierce commitment to intellectual honesty. Growing up in Georgia, he says, "I felt a very real sense that most of the authority figures I was exposed to were not very bright." There was Ms. Coleman, the junior high math teacher who gave him detention for saying the word "transvestite" ("Even in sixth grade, I knew that was absurd"); Ms. Casey, the English teacher who told a misbehaving Cross—referring to his Jewish heritage—"I don't know how they let you in their club." ("The Jew Club!" he marvels. "Now over 5,000 years old!")

Even by comedy standards, Cross' childhood was rough. His dad, Barry, sold women's clothing but couldn't hold a job. By the time Cross was 10, the family had moved numerous times, from Atlanta to Florida to Connecticut to New York and back. Even when Barry was working, the Crosses were Dickensianly poor: food stamps, government cheese, lunches at a local soup kitchen. David remembers coming home from school to find out they'd been evicted; his younger sister Wendy recalls once going a week eating nothing but fried cornmeal and maple syrup.

Because the family moved so much, Cross was always the new kid at school. He was kind of an outcast, bookish and small—a tough combination for a Jewish kid in the 1970s South. "I was a huge pussy," Cross says. "I would do anything to avoid a fight." Wendy says he was outgoing, if not great with girls (especially after he started losing his hair in high school). "Some people thought he was really funny," she says. "And some people thought he was a dick."

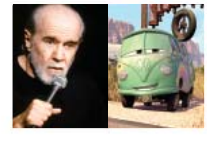
One day, not long before Cross' 10th birthday, his dad took off. He'd resurface every once in while to bum food, crash on their couch, steal things. One time he took a Star of David necklace Cross had gotten for

CHILD'S PLAY

DAVID CROSS ISN'T THE FIRST COMEDIAN TO WORK BLUE ONSTAGE AND KID-FRIENDLY ONSCREEN. **A FEW OF OUR FAVORITES...**

Richard Pryor
STAND-UP: "I'm not addicted to cocaine. I just like the way it smells."
***THE MUPPET MOVIE* (1979):** "A beautiful chicken like that deserves two balloons."

Eddie Murphy
STAND-UP: "Would you rather have somebody say, 'Oh, make love to me,' or grab the back of your head and say, 'Fuck the shit out of me'?"
***SHREK* (2001):** "We can stay up late, swapping manly stories, and in the morning I'm making waffles!"



George Carlin
STAND-UP: "I never fucked a 10, but one night I fucked five twos."
***CARS* (2006):** "There's a lot of love out there, man."

Gilbert Gottfried
STAND-UP: "A little boy comes home from school. He goes, 'Dad I got my first blow job today!' The father goes, 'That's great. How was it?' He goes, 'Tasted awful.'"
***ALADDIN* (1992):** "Oh, boy. He's cracked. He's gone nuts."

Chris Rock:
STAND-UP: "If a girl has a pierced tongue, she'll probably suck your dick."
***MADAGASCAR* (2005):** "When a zebra's in the zone, leave him alone."

Wanda Sykes
STAND-UP: "Wouldn't it be wonderful if our pussies were detachable? Just so much freedom."
***OVER THE HEDGE* (2006):** "I'm sick and tired of everybody taking one look at me and running away 'cause they think I'm filthy."

STYLING, ERIN TURON; GROOMING, KUMI CRAIG/EXCLUSIVE ARTISTS. SPECIAL THANKS TO THE LEVEE, BROOKLYN, N.Y.

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STATIONS OF THE CROSS

From left: The comedian as semi-closeted "analrapist" Tobias Fünke in the late, great *Arrested Development*; clowning for the crowd during a 2009 stand-up gig in Chicago; and mugging with actress girlfriend Amber Tamblyn.

his bar mitzvah and hocked it. Another time he cleaned out the savings accounts the kids' grandmother had started for their college tuition. Cross recalls going to court with his dad for a child-support hearing and listening to him tell the judge how broke he was; meanwhile, he says, "I'm thinking about my mom and my two sisters in that shithole, and the beat-up '72 station wagon, and my mom can't afford to feed us, and school's coming up again. I thought, Wow, that's pretty gross."

It doesn't take a professional "analrapist" to see Cross' lifelong commitment to truth-telling as a response to his dad's lies. "It's a scar that runs deep," Wendy says. "Dave's really smart, he's gone through a lot of therapy, but he's still very closed, and I think that stems from having somebody he loved not love him back." Cross finally severed ties with his dad when he was 19. He won't discuss details, except to say, "He did something really shitty, and I decided that was the last time I would talk to him." The elder Cross lives in Manhattan now, less than three miles from his son, but they haven't spoken in 25 years.

So: A funny, balding, alienated teenager with a fucked-up home life and an antiauthoritarian streak? Cross was built for stand-up the way LeBron was built to dunk. He'd always been a comedy fan—Monty Python, Dr. Demento—but as a teenager he started taking it seriously. "It's really all I was skilled at," Cross says. "I'm not good at math, I'm not good at sports. But I can make people laugh." He got suspended from the student radio station twice: Once for dedicating the lunch menu to Irishman Bobby Sands, an imprisoned IRA member who'd just starved to death during a hunger strike, and once for reporting that traffic was "heavier than Ms. Jackson," the assistant principal.

After graduation Cross fled Georgia as fast as he could, enrolling at Boston's Emerson College. He failed art appreciation and dropped out within a year, but by then he was booking regular stand-up gigs, doing "Andy Kaufman performance-type stuff"—fake characters, audience confrontations, etc. Along with friends such as Sarah Silverman, Janeane Garofalo, and Louis C.K., he was helping invent the "alt-comic" movement that would help define comedy for the next two decades.

He eventually moved to L.A. and got hired at *The Ben Stiller Show*, where he met Odenkirk, with whom he'd go on to create the groundbreaking *Mr. Show* for HBO. "After *Mr. Show* came out, there were a lot of mini David Crosses sprouting up in the comedy world," Silverman says. "He could argue one side of an issue and make you agree with him 100 percent, then turn around and argue the opposite side and change your mind completely. However he's seeing something, he has this power to bring you right to his point of view. And it's always hilarious."

BY NOW THE RAIN HAS

stopped, so we take a walk around the corner to a bar called 2A. This is Cross' local. He takes Ollie off her leash, helps himself to the popcorn machine behind the bar. "Hey, Donovan," he says as the bartender pours him a pint, and Cross takes a seat by the window.

Not too long ago Cross was a New York nightlife fixture. You could hardly visit a bar or an indie-rock show without spotting his chunky black glasses and stubbly dome. He partied with bands—the Strokes are friends—did shots with fans, even had his own impostor ("Fake David Cross"). He has slowed down some but still loves tequila and beer and cops to a lasting affection for speed and cocaine. "With the exception of maybe hallucinogens, I'll do whatever somebody has," he says, sipping his beer. "I'm more than happy to have a good time—especially if somebody's got some blow. That's when it gets to be six in the morning, and I'm naked, standing on the table going, 'I AM SPARTA!'"

Last May, Cross outdid even himself. As part of an ongoing who's-crazier contest with McInnes, he snorted coke at the annual White House Correspondents' Association dinner—right in the middle of Obama's speech. He pulls out his camera and starts scrolling through photos: "Here's Antonin Scalia. That's Dan and Marilyn Quayle. Here's Michelle Obama…" After he did it—just a bump, not a line—he immediately sent McInnes an e-mail: *Tag, you're it.*

At this point in his career, Cross is a strange sort of paradox. To scenesters he's the alt-comedy hero who's also done dramatic turns in arthouse fare such as *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* and the cracked Bob Dylan biopic *I'm Not There.* But his steadiest work comes on the cartoon circuit, where he's lent his voice to such pre-K juggernauts as *Kung Fu Panda* and *Curious George.* His upcoming projects straddle both worlds: In Column A, there's *The Increasingly Poor Decisions of Todd Margaret*, a new show he's writing and starring in (the one he was doing in London) about an incompetent loser who lies his way into increasingly catastrophic predicaments. In Column B, he's reprising his role as a crane next year in *Kung Fu Panda: The Kaboom of Doom.* (As for the long-rumored *Arrested Development* movie, Cross says don't hold your breath. "There's no movie, I'm telling you now. You've got all those different people to bring together, there's still no script…It's not gonna happen.")

Cross still keeps in touch with his *Arrested* cast mates—he's in a fantasy football league with Will Arnett and a fantasy baseball league with Arnett and Jason Bateman. (Other members include *The Office*'s John Krasinki and ex-ESPN anchor Keith Olbermann—which Cross is none too happy about. "Fuckin' Olbermann's gonna win again! And you *know* he has inside information.")

But these days his closest friend is the one he described on the jacket for his 2009 book, *I Drink for a Reason,* as the woman he's "currently fucking." For the past two years, Cross has been dating actress Amber Tamblyn (*Joan of Arcadia, The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants*), a knockout redhead 19 years his junior. "At the beginning I was very self-conscious about the age difference," he says. "The voice kept nagging me: *This sweet little girl. You're gonna look like the biggest fucking creep in the world.*" Eventually, though, love won out; now they're living together, and Cross says wedding bells might even be on the horizon…someday.

Normally they'd be cooking dinner right now, but Tamblyn is filming in Boston, so we head back to his place for a nightcap. Cross pours himself a glass of cabernet, then takes a jar of peanut butter out of the fridge. "It's my dinner," he explains. "You dip some pretzel rods in there, and I swear to God, my favorite fucking thing." It's only later I realize tonight was Passover, the Jewish holiday. Apparently, that's how David Cross does a seder—pretzels and peanut butter.

Lovely girlfriend, steady work, a good dog. Is David Cross finally happy? "He's the happiest he's been since I've known him," McInnes says. Last year Cross bought some property upstate—a little cottage on five and a half acres, just a two-hour drive in his SUV. "I'm really surprised at how happy I am to go up with Amber and Ollie," he says. "I love chopping down trees. I love walking though the woods. I love barbecuing meat. I love driving down to the lake and jumping in."

Cookouts? Brush-clearing? An American gas guzzler? Not to stereotype, but it all sounds pretty…red state.

Cross nods. "After a while I kind of had to face facts," he says. "I guess I'm a Southern boy." ●

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Forget greased-up guidos and airheaded *Hills* folk. **Amber Lancaster,** star of the super-raunchy sitcom *The Hard Times of RJ Berger,* makes us *really* want our MTV.

By Patrick Carone

Photographs by Sasha Eisenman

Amber Lancaster is taking over MTV. The network better known for showcasing six-pack abs is getting a comedy injection thanks to the Amber-starring *Hard Times of RJ Berger*, a dirty yukfest about a dork with a big dong. Listen as our former Hometown Hotties finalist talks loan coordination and bejeweled vaginas.

You started out as a Hometown Hottie in 2004, and now you're an MTV star. We think we deserve a cut of your next paycheck!
Oh, for sure! After being voted into the Top 10, I decided to move to L.A. permanently. It kind of launched my career. I am loyal to *Maxim* through and through.

What were you doing before you became a Hottie?
I was a loan coordinator at a mortgage company in Seattle. My roommate thought I should enter the contest, so we made a video of me dancing around my living room looking like an idiot. If you guys repost that video, I might boycott you. ➤➤

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SlamaVShot.com

And you were a cheerleader for the Seattle Seahawks as well, right?
Yeah. We were technically called dancers, but we had pompoms, so it did get a little confusing. The problem is, you tell people you're a dancer and they think you work at some place called Déjà Vu.

Let's talk *The Hard Times of RJ Berger*. What's it about?
RJ Berger is your quintessential nerdy high school kid, and his friend Miles is always trying to get them noticed and help them move up the social ladder. Anyway, in the very first episode, RJ's member is exposed at a basketball game.

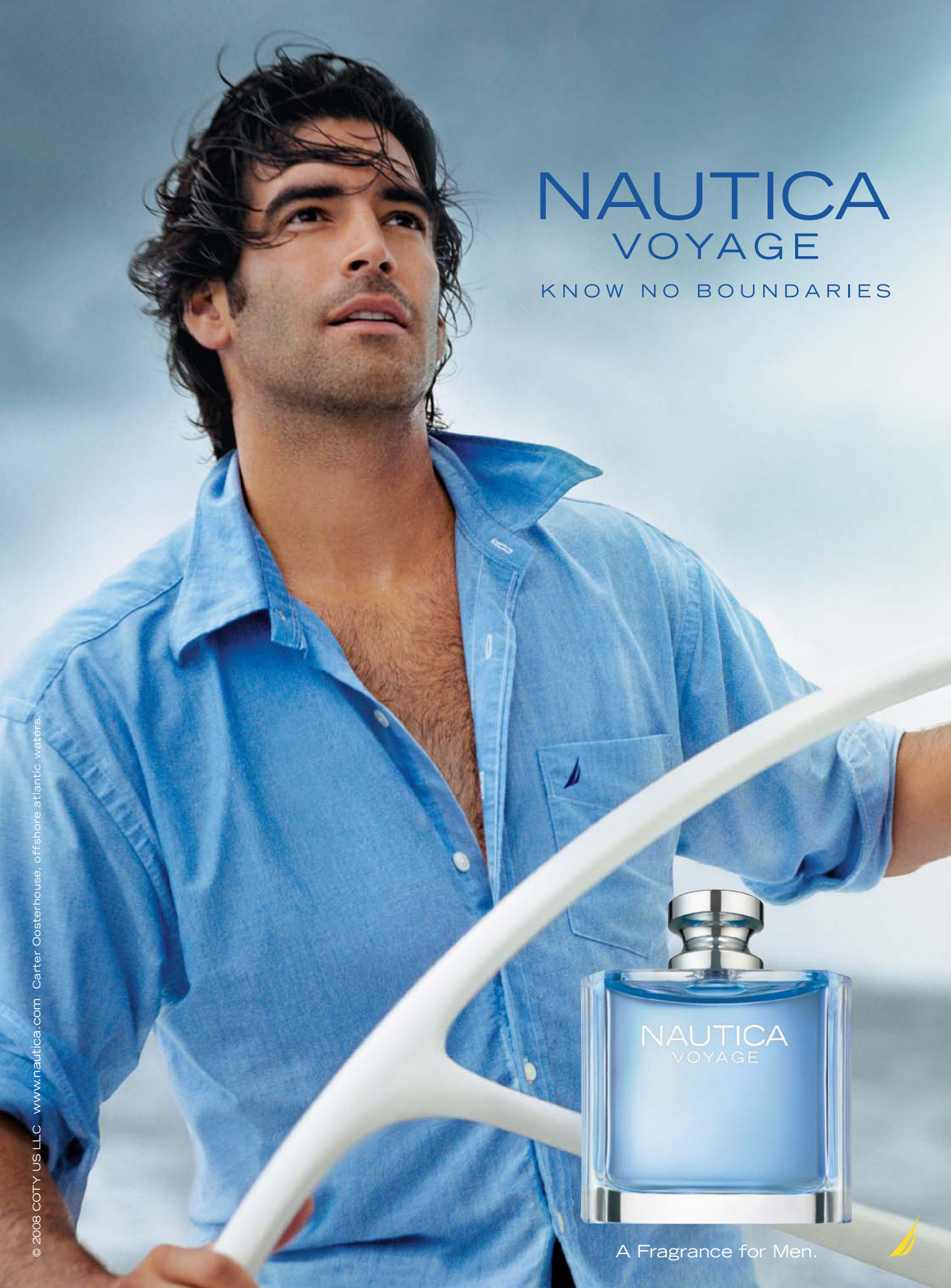
His member?
You know, his thingy! It turns out it's quite large, so he gains a bit of notoriety. That propels them into more opportunities at school.

Who do you play?
If the show is like *Superbad* meets *The Wonder Years*, then I'm kind of the Winnie Cooper [see page 88]...but a little more scandalous.

Really?
Yeah, I'm the down-to-earth girl next door, but RJ is constantly having dreams of me ripping my dress off in the hallway and showing up to school naked.

That sounds intriguing. So MTV is really doing a non-reality show?
People can't comprehend that MTV is doing something scripted. It's a really big deal for them. They're kind of changing their whole image.

Have you partied with the *Jersey Shore* folks?
I did! They're pretty fun, but I don't know if my liver could handle hanging out with them on a daily basis. ➤➤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Did the Situation show you his abs?
Definitely. I told him it looked like they were slipping a little bit, and I think it hurt the guy's feelings.

Do you go out and party very often?
Not so much anymore. When I first got to L.A., I'd go out all the time, but now I'm way more of a homebody.

You must get hit with lots of pickup lines when you do go out.
Yeah. I had the worst one the other night. I was out with my girlfriends, and this guy comes up to me and tells me the girl he was just talking to has a bejeweled vagina. She had, like, bejeweled her va-jay-jay! I was like, "Really, dude?"

What exactly was the guy's strategy there?
He was saying that his friend wanted him to look at it, but he didn't want to. Am I supposed to think you're a quality guy because you don't want to look at the bejeweled vagina? Even I kind of wanted to look at it!

So what would be a better approach for a girl like you?
Just talk to me about normal things, like music. Also, I love guys who know something that I don't know.

Such as?
Even if I have absolutely no idea what a dude is talking about, like stocks or something, it's actually really hot. ●

P.82: **VICTORIA'S SECRET** BRA AND THONG. P.84: **ANIKA** BIKINI; **YSL** SHOES

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ICON

BY MIKE OLSON PHOTOGRAPH BY DENIS ROUVRE

Ridley Scott

The 72-year-old director of *Alien*, *Blade Runner*, and *Gladiator* shows off his epic *Robin Hood*. (And a shiny new knee.)

We hear you're on the mend.
I had a knee replacement and, believe me, it fucking hurts. I may be a bit gaga, just so you know. You've got to find your drug. Everyone's different.

So which one works for you?
A good old slap of morphine.

Then we'll start with an easy one. Did you love *Alien vs. Predator*?
No, no, no. I kept out of that. They never even mentioned to me that they were doing *Aliens*. I was a little hurt at the time, but then I thought, Why not? It's Hollywood. But I am doing the prequel. We have a plan and a script.

The original *Alien* really stands the test of time. Is that because you were stuck using real sets and actors in real costumes?
Oh, yeah. George Lucas had already done *Star Wars*, and I was hearing about all these wonderful, mysterious tracking devices that went beyond the old tradition of matte painting. It was the next technology. But we had a much lower budget than George, so my space shots were literally done on a dolly with lots of dry ice and a wind machine. It was that basic. Ironically, it still stands up great.

Will current films, like *Avatar*, hold up?
Jim Cameron raised the bar by saying this is what you can do, the same way Stanley Kubrick did with *2001*. That was the first time I took space and science fiction seriously. When Stanley did *2001*, I thought, Oh, my God. I have to do one.

You've said that Harrison Ford was the biggest pain in the ass to work with on *Blade Runner*. Does he still have that title?
I think he's holding on to it. But he would probably say I hold the title of being the biggest pain in the ass as a director.

Have you mellowed over the years?
Yeah, but I'm old-school. I'm hands-on with everything from the screenplays and the music to the haircuts and the shoelaces. I've learned to accept that it's a team effort, but somebody finally has to say, "No, we do it this way." If you're not the leader of the pack, then you should be doing something else.

You've worked with Russell Crowe in *Gladiator*, *American Gangster*, and now *Robin Hood*. Does that mean you get along with him the best?
I think that in a funny way we get along. I mean, we argue a lot. The best way of describing it is that he questions a lot, which is his prerogative, because he's going to stick his head on that screen and expose himself. He'll say, "Do you really want to do that?" and I'll just say, "Yes." We still do the big waltz, but every time we make a movie I give a little less explanation.

Of all the seminal scenes you've filmed—an alien popping out of John Hurt's belly, Thelma and Louise holding hands as they drive off a cliff, Anthony Hopkins sautéing a brain in *Hannibal*—do you have a favorite?
I would probably say the John Hurt sequence in *Alien*, because on paper it reads pretty cheesy. You go, That's what's going to happen? Then you realize, yes, it's a man giving birth to a monster on the kitchen table! It's a moment that could have slid into excessive but didn't.

How do you look back on *G.I. Jane*, which didn't catch on as much?
I've got no reservations on *G.I. Jane*. And Demi? I'd never seen a woman do one-armed push-ups before.

When you were making *Gladiator*, did you know it would change the way epics are made forever?
I understand they had offered *Gladiator* to two or three people, but I think they were scared to death of a sword-and-sandals movie. Those films tend to be theatrical; you're held out of it by the spectacle. That's the danger of an epic. And I think the trick is to make an epic where you're in the universe of these characters.

Is that the goal for *Robin Hood* also?
Yes. We're right in the universe.

"A MAN GIVING BIRTH TO A MONSTER—IT COULD HAVE BEEN CHEESY."

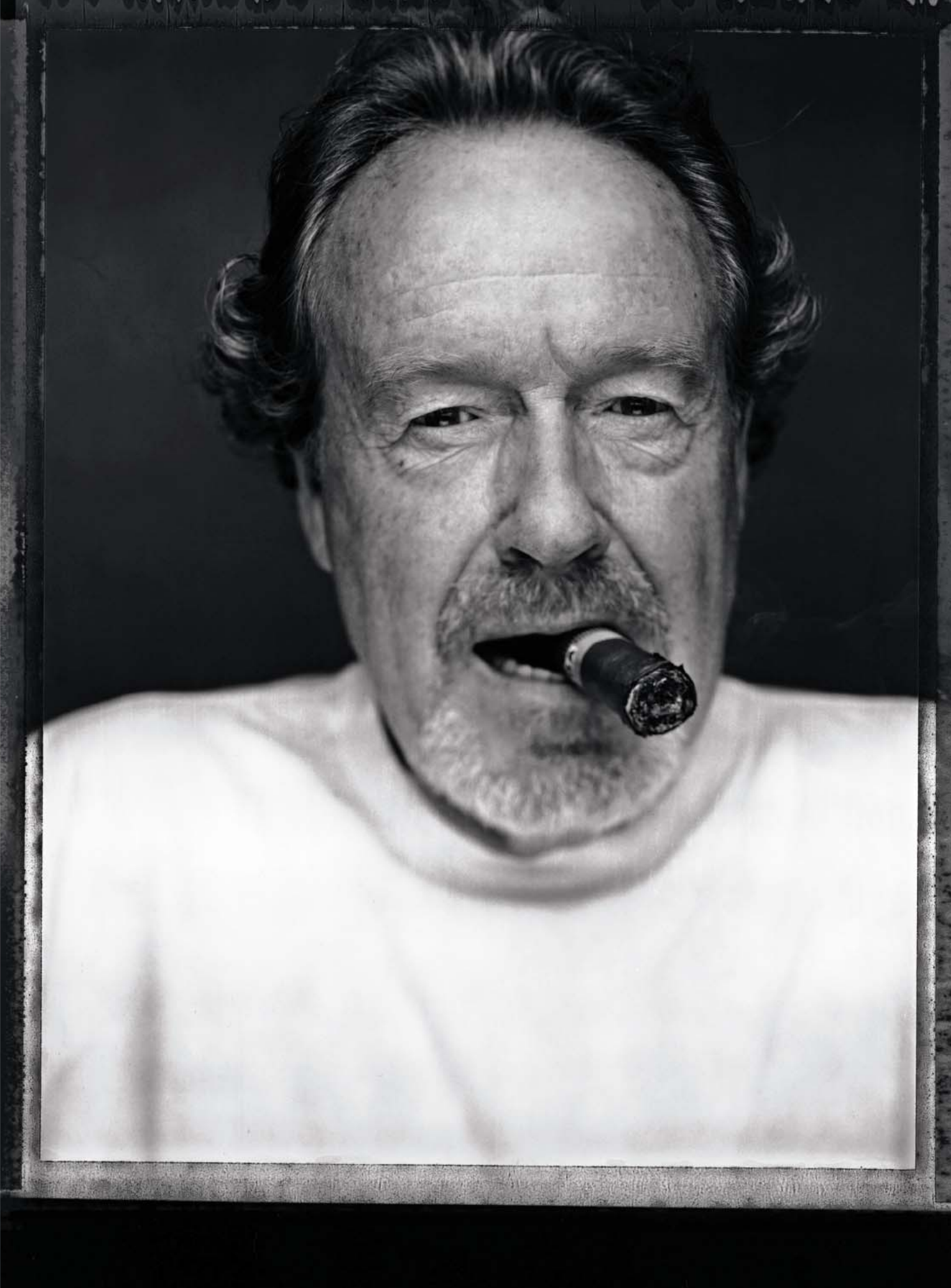
As a fan of period films, do you care that your hero may not have existed?
Robin has sustained 1,000 years of legend. Whatever it is, this guy who was an outlaw and a hero and a do-gooder has captured our imagination. Whether he existed or not in that pure form, who knows?

Is there a lot of pressure to deliver a great Robin Hood movie? Most of them have been pretty terrible.
I have to agree with you. There's been a lot of Robin Hood films done, and I was never impressed with them. So I hope we strike the anvil here.

What would you go back and tell your 18-year-old self if you could?
Never be put off by anything, because failure teaches you something. If you look at failure as failure, then it's completely negative. But if you learn something, then you never waste your time. You always evolve.

What's one thing to remember in a fistfight?
A fistfight? Make sure you fucking hit him first! Don't hesitate. And if he gets up, run like fuck!

And your worst vice?
I ditched them all. It's fucking boring. I loved to smoke, and I stopped that 20 years ago. Tennis was a fantastic vice, but I wore out my knees. My vices have distilled right down to vodka and red wine. That's it.



STYLING, MEGAN ROSS/FACTORY DOWNTOWN; HAIR, FRED VAN DE BUNT USING PHYTO/
ART DEPARTMENT; MAKEUP, KYRIAKI SAVRANI/FACTORY DOWNTOWN

square root of sexy

As Winnie Cooper on *The Wonder Years*, she was America's favorite girl next door. Now **Danica McKellar** is all grown up, sexier than ever, and—wait for it—a math genius. Ready to get schooled?

BY PATRICK CARONE
PHOTOGRAPHS BY BROOKE NIPAR

p.88: **J.Crew** blazer and tie, **American Apparel** shirt, **Chantal Thomass** bra. p.89: **Huit** bra and boy shorts, **Aldo** shoes, **Wolford** knee-highs. p.90-91: **Victoria's Secret** bra and panties, **American Apparel** socks.

every red-blooded american male

had a crush on Danica McKellar. The first love of *The Wonder Years* hero Kevin Arnold (played by a squeaky-voiced Fred Savage), Winnie Cooper defined "sweet but sexy" for a generation. After the show ended, instead of spiraling into a former-child-star abyss, Danica got a math degree at UCLA. Now she's using her expertise to write books helping girls feel confident about the subject. And our crush? It has grown exponentially!

Did you have fun at your *Maxim* shoot?
Are you kidding? So much fun! There was a smart-and-sexy schoolgirl theme going on, so it was awesome playing dress-up.

How did you go from child actress to math goddess?
When I got to college, I was intending to study film. But I found that my brain was feeling mushy, so I took a few math classes. I started doing really well at them, and solving equations was this, like, drug rush.

A drug rush from math?
It's true! Then, after graduation, an article came out about a paper I'd coauthored in which we proved a new theorem. From that, I was approached to write books, and I knew I wanted to help girls not be afraid of math. My latest, *Hot X: Algebra Exposed!*, is coming out in August.

That's quite a 180 from *The Wonder Years*.
I realized I needed to find out who I was outside of that show. My whole life people called me Winnie Cooper, and it was important for me to find out what else I had to offer.

Can math be sexy?
Totally! If a guy is skilled at anything, that's attractive. There's something very primal about that, and, sure, it can be as simple as figuring out the tip quickly.

What else turns you on?
Confidence is one of the sexiest things in guys *and* girls. Look at Michelle Pfeiffer: My God, she's 50 years old, but she is still so sexy. If I were into women, I would be totally into her.

Now, everyone remembers when Winnie and Kevin first kissed. Was that your actual first kiss?
It was, yeah, for both of us. I was 12, and he was 11. That was only about a week after we'd met, and we totally had crushes on each other. But we never kissed offscreen, ever.

You must meet guys who hit on you because of your famous role.
I've always been really cautious about guys who have a Winnie Cooper fantasy, and I'm so glad about that. I mean, I can count on one hand the guys I've been with. It was really challenging, but I never gave it up too soon, if you know what I mean. ●

We Like To Watch

New tech toys are changing the ways you watch: from 3D in HD to cable-free TV to the best portable screen we've ever seen. Gentlemen, start your time-wasting!

3D me

Like HD sets less than a decade ago, 3D TVs are pricey conversation pieces showing more promise than programming. But now if you're watching anything less than 1080 HD, you might as well be reading. 3D's at the start of the same journey. So why make the jump now? When done right, 3D on TV looks amazing. And the sooner you jump in, the sooner you can start making your buddies feel bad about their pathetically flat pictures. Still not sold? **Four words: Megan Fox in 3D.**

ILLUSTRATIONS BY CHRIS PHILPOT

How 3D Gets to Your TV

1. Your favorite things to watch (boobies, basketball, blowups) are filmed by a camera with two lenses that shoot slightly shifted perspectives.

2. A man in a TV/film trailer eats a sandwich, and 3D content is piped to your home.

3. As your 3DTV rapidly displays each of the two perspectives alternately (right or left), the opposite lens of your powered 3D glasses darkens. This happens as many as 60 times per second.

4. Your brain is tricked into seeing the image whole, in three dimensions. You reach out to touch the people, but they are a mirage. You are still alone. The clock ticks.

ASK 3DPO!

OUR 3D ROBOT HAS ALL THE ANSWERS.

Do I need a new TV to watch in 3D?
Short answer: yes. The 3D content you'll get from Blu-ray discs, cable, and satellite conveniently arrives at a bandwidth your current plasma or LCD set doesn't understand. The good news is you'll have plenty of options once you're ready to pull the trigger. All the big boys, including Samsung, Toshiba, LG, and Sony, have 3D sets due out. If you want to upgrade all at once, you can grab **Panasonic's Full HD 3D Home Theater System ($2,900)**, which features one of their shockingly awesome 50-inch Viera VT20 series TVs (see Leatherface, Freddy, and Jason jumping out of it, *opposite*), and also includes a DMP-BT300 Blu-ray player and a pair of active shutter glasses.

Are these the same 3D glasses you use at the movie theater?
Nope. Even though theater and home systems achieve a similar effect, your smaller home screen requires different technology. It's battery-powered and uses active syncing, which means the lenses flicker back and forth so each eye sees a slightly different picture (see sidebar). The pair you rock in the theater uses simple polarization to block light to each eye.

Do I need a new Blu-ray player?
Depends. If you're using a stand-alone player, you're going to need to upgrade to something like Samsung's swank new **BD-C6900 ($399, pictured below)**. But if you have a PS3 pulling Blu-ray duty in your home, then your 3D salvation will come via the Web in the form of a firmware upgrade. That might be your best bet at this point, since the nearly $300 premium you'll pay on most stand-alone Blu-ray players is enough to cover the cost of the console anyway. Use the money you save for a sweet safety strap for your glasses!

What can I watch on this thing?
We hope you like CGI. The amount of awesome 3D content will start with a trickle and grow quickly in 2010 (*see below*), but since adding 3D to a computer-animated movie takes studios about as much time and money as adding an extra fart joke, early adopters should plan on spending some quality time with a bunch of wisecracking animals.

What You'll See in 3D

BALLS, BABES, AND CARTOON BEASTS SO REAL YOU'LL PINCH YOURSELF.

SPORTS
This month ESPN launches a 3D network that will carry more than 85 events live over the year, including the World Cup, the X Games, and the BCS National Championship.

TV
DirecTV is leading the charge, launching three dedicated 3D stations in June, with content from CBS, NBC, Fox Sports, MTV, and others. Cable providers will likely follow suit.

MOVIES
No hot Na'vi-on-Na'vi action until the 3D *Avatar* disc comes out in 2011, but you'll be able to catch 20 titles this year, including *Shrek* and *Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs*.

PORN
3D T&A might just save the adult video industry's A. Directors Quentin Tarantino and Gaspar Noé have even expressed interest. The first HD 3D porn, *Shortcuts 3-D*, is out this spring.

Things We Never Want to See in 3D

WHILE TECHNOLOGY HAS NO LIMITS, OUR GAG REFLEX DOES.

ILLUSTRATIONS BY PETER OUMANSKI

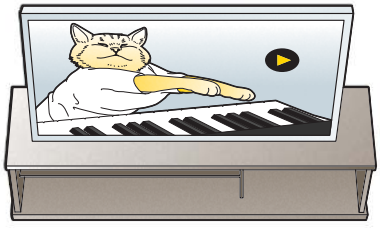
1. Tim Burton's *The Diary of Anne Frank*

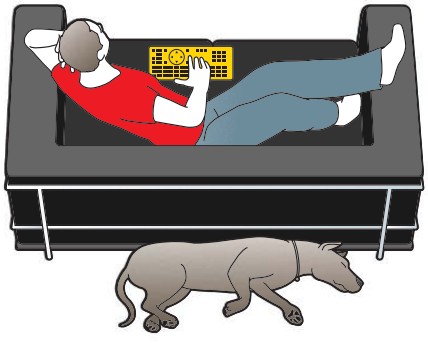
2. Amateur porn. We have a hard enough time trying not to notice your messy apartment in grainy, online video clips.

3. *John Goodman Presents: Nude Lunges*

4. *Driving Miss Daisy*, Unrated Director's Cut

5. Our niece's dance recital. Let's be honest: She can't dance for shit.





Get the Net on TV

Buying a 12-foot satellite dish? So 1987. Sitting at a desk watching Hulu? So last year. Here are five ways to **pimp your TV with the wonders of the Internet** without getting up off the couch. You might even find a way to kill your cable bill.

3DPO speaks:

Every minute, 24 hours of video are uploaded to YouTube. It would take nearly **four years** to watch one day's content.

1. Make room for the Boxee Box.

If you can't afford a new Web-connected TV, no worries. For less than $200, this little media player will transform a basic boob tube into a full-service Web- powered media player. Once you've hooked it into your TV (there's even an HDMI port!), just plug the box into your home network (or connect via wi-fi) to gain access to a plethora of video sites such as MLB.TV, Funny or Die, and usual suspects like Netflix. Beyond online content, D-Link's Boxee Box will serve up films and pics saved remotely on your home PC. Plus, the unit has a USB port, which is handy if, say, a "friend" wants to broadcast something, uh, "educational."

2. Get an apped-up TV.

Scorching your love spuds with a laptop is about as fun as watching Lifetime—which is why you need a big-ass flat-screen that delivers those Web-only goods from a safe distance. With the Vizio XVT series, you get a vivid 1080p LCD set that won't max out your credit card (42-inch XVT models from $1,100) and lets you stream video and Web apps at once. In addition to on-demand movies from Netflix, Vudu, Blockbuster, and Amazon, you can choose from more than two dozen Yahoo! apps that instantly serve up everything from Pandora playlists and eBay searches to Twitter. First order of business: Tell your "followers" to chip in so you can buy this sweet set.

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AXE TWI2T

THE FRAGRANCE THAT CHANGES

3. Get connected components.

If you've yet to ditch DVDs and upgrade to Blu-ray, well, now you've got another solid reason: Internet-connected Blu-ray players don't just play little plastic discs; they can also relay clips from YouTube and on-demand rentals from Cinema-Now, Vudu, and Netflix. Pretty sweet. But why stop there? On top of a 1080p high-def Blu-ray player, LG's LHB535 Home Theater-In-A-Box ($580) livens up your living room with 5.1-channel surround-sound that cranks on two front-side speakers and a center, two rear speakers, and a 200-watt subwoofer. Between the CD player, iPod/iPhone dock, AM/FM radio, and, of course, all those Web options, you'll only have to get up to eat or go to the bathroom. Or not.

4. Give your gaming console home theater duty.

Xbox 360

As if annihilating random teens at *Halo* on Xbox Live wasn't enough, the 360 (from $199) serves up Net-connected apps from Last.fm and Netflix to the Weather Channel. You can update Twitter and Facebook from your TV. Or take a break from socializing with Zune video's long list of TV shows and films in crisp 1080p HD.

PS3

Never mind the 3D-ready Blu-ray player or up to 250 GB of hard-drive space you can load up with your own movies, pictures, music, or games. PS3's (from $299) built-in wi-fi does a lot more than let you go multiplayer-style with *Call of Duty:* You can also rent or buy more than 2,000 movies directly from Sony—or do Netflix like it's your job, son.

Wii

So what if Grandpa loves his Wii tennis? You're the boss, and you need some Internet. Not only does Nintendo's Wii ($199) have a dedicated Web browser and a variety of Web-connected channels that broadcast news and weather updates—Nintendo recently unveiled Netflix for the Wii. Game over, Gramps!

5. And if you gotta watch cable...TiVo it.

All DVRs are not created equal. With TiVo's Premiere series (from $300), not only do you get a massive hard drive to store what you record (up to 150 hours of HD content with the $500 model), but now you also get access to a huge library of on-demand movies, videos, and clips from Netflix, Amazon, Blockbuster, and YouTube. Finding stuff is easy, thanks to a smarter interface: If you type in "House," it knows you probably want the TV show, not footage of some jackass egging a brownstone on YouTube. For that, try: "Dude egging a house."

There's a 1990s App for That!

OUR PREMILLENNIUM LIVES WOULD HAVE BEEN SO MUCH COOLER IF 1990S GADGETS RAN THESE APPS:

ILLUSTRATIONS BY PETER OUMANSKI

1. THE FIDDLER
Adds a piercing Dave Matthews Band violin solo to every tune.

2. ROLLERBLADE ROUTE FINDER
Learn the best way to roll to work on your badass in-line skates!

3. WHICH *FRIENDS* CHARACTER ARE YOU?
Don't be a Gunther!

4. MACAULAY CULKIN YOURSELF
Gives all your portraits the classic *Home Alone* "Agh!" gesture.

5. DAN CORTESE, PERSONAL TRAINER
Work out to affirmations like, "You crushed it," "Dude!" and "Dude, you crushed it!"

6. *BASIC INSTINCT* APP
Runs in the background of any show. Look at the right moment and you might see something naughty!

APPS THAT SEE THROUGH WALLS. BUT NOT THROUGH CLOTHES. YET.

LAYAR. Reveal the invisible world of geotags and wikis that live all around you.

GOOGLE GOGGLES. The visual search engine. The app that's doing for smartphones what Google search did for web browsers.

Run multiple apps simultaneously. Because when there's no limit to what Droid gets, there's no limit to what Droid Does.

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DROID DOES

sexy small screens

So the plasma TV in your den is the biggest on the block. You win, buddy! Well, actually you don't, because you can't see it from the can. The well-entertained gentleman should have **a screen wherever he finds himself.** What else are we supposed to do, carry around a book?

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maxim.com/iPad

Flat-out Genius

When Apple's grand turtleneck, Steve Jobs, announced the company's long-awaited tablet device and called it the iPad (from $499), the Internet lit up with haters and fanboys alike, screaming from the rooftops about everything from missing cameras to upscaled apps. But we saw past all that to what's really important: the big, beautiful screen that transports us to video nirvana wherever we watch it. The 9.7-inch LED display sports a 1024x768 resolution, which officially lands it in HD territory. Plus, the 25-watt-hour battery can crank out up to 10 hours of video on a single charge, more than enough for rewatching Season 1 of *Arrested Development* in one sick day. Sure, it won't do Flash, but there's no shortage of stuff to watch. With MLB's app and a subscription to MLB.TV, you'll have access to high-res streams of live games, loaded up with more real-time stats and interactivity than even the most die-hard fantasy baseball nerd can handle. Add that to the iTunes video store, the SlingPlayer, and upcoming Hulu apps, and you have a recipe for never being productive again.
from $499, apple.com

3DPO speaks:
The weight of the average human head is comparable to **five iPads.**

To live ultimately, drink responsibly.

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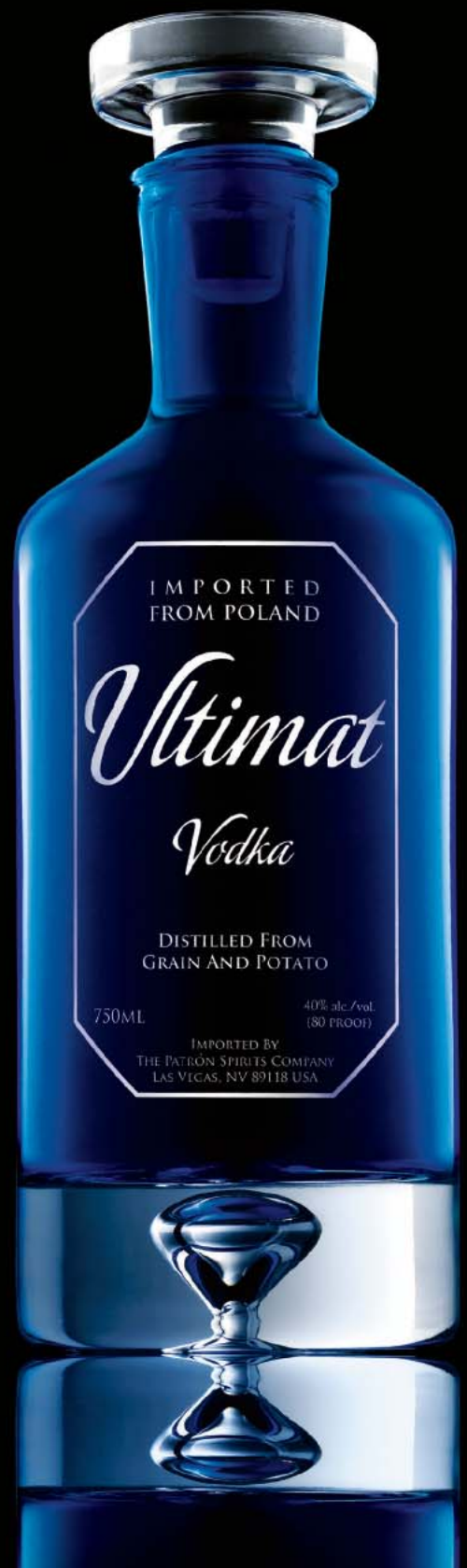
Good: a vodka distilled from potato

Better: a vodka distilled from wheat or rye

Ultimat: a vodka distilled from all three



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You Might Say This While Discussing the iPad With Your Grandpa

"It's a new kind of touchscreen computer called the iPad. It's for watching videos and getting onto the Internet."

"Yes, it is flat like a plate."

"Probably because 'computer plate' doesn't sound as good."

"Uh-huh, you do hold it on your lap like a grandchild or a burlesque girl, I guess."

"See, it makes e-mail easy."

"Hold on—I think you just sent $2,000 to Nigeria!"

"No, there's still no keyboard."

"It's not an Etch A Sketch. Please stop shaking it."

"*A-a-a-a-a-h!!!*"

CONTRIBUTORS
Dan Bergstein, Stan Horaczek, Steven Leckart, Steve Mazzucchi

Clock Watcher ▶

Here's one alarm you'd regret slinging across the room, because it lets you hit snooze, call in sick, and then enjoy *27 Dresses* from bed! The Sony dash is the ultimate clock radio: It boasts a seven-inch screen and wi-fi access to 1,500-plus Web apps, including Facebook, YouTube, and Pandora, plus streaming Netflix movies and shows. Sure, your laptop does, too, but it also has all those annoying buttons, which only remind you of the work you're trying desperately to avoid. **$199, sonystyle.com**

▲ Sling King

It's common to have anxiety about leaving home, especially when you're in the midst of a particularly gripping half-hour of *Everybody Loves Raymond*. Luckily, now you can see that and everything else on your TV on your iPhone. Attach a Slingbox (from $180) to your TV, then get the SlingPlayer Mobile app ($30) to control and watch. Antisocial and awesome!

▲ Speed Cel

When the HTC Evo comes out this summer with its big, beautiful 4.3-inch screen ($TBA), it'll be the first 4G phone in the States. What's that mean? You'll be able to speedily download racy video content 10X faster than on a 3G network. When you wanna watch the clean stuff, flip on Sprint TV and watch real-time programming from NBC, Speed, and ESPN Mobile TV.

▲ Free TV

Later this year a new TV format will hit the air: mobile DTV, which will bring live local TV programming to all kinds of gadgets—phones, portable media players, GPS's—all for free. The first gadget to show the stuff will be LG's DP570MH ($249), which also has a DVD player that will really come in handy for killing your Netflix queue while you wait for mobile DTV to hit your area.

◀ Jet Set

The iPhone-size Flo TV delivers a dozen-plus channels—including Comedy Central, MTV, CNN, and Fox Sports—on a 3.5-inch screen, so you can loathe Joe Buck from the car, the can, or the shed your girlfriend accidentally locked you in. Simple controls, a handy kickstand, and a burly battery let your eyes glaze for up to five hours. Sure, not all content's live and reception can be spotty, but in some locations, the view looks pretty sweet. *The View*, we mean. **$199 (plus a $15/month subscription), flotv.com**

All in good taste

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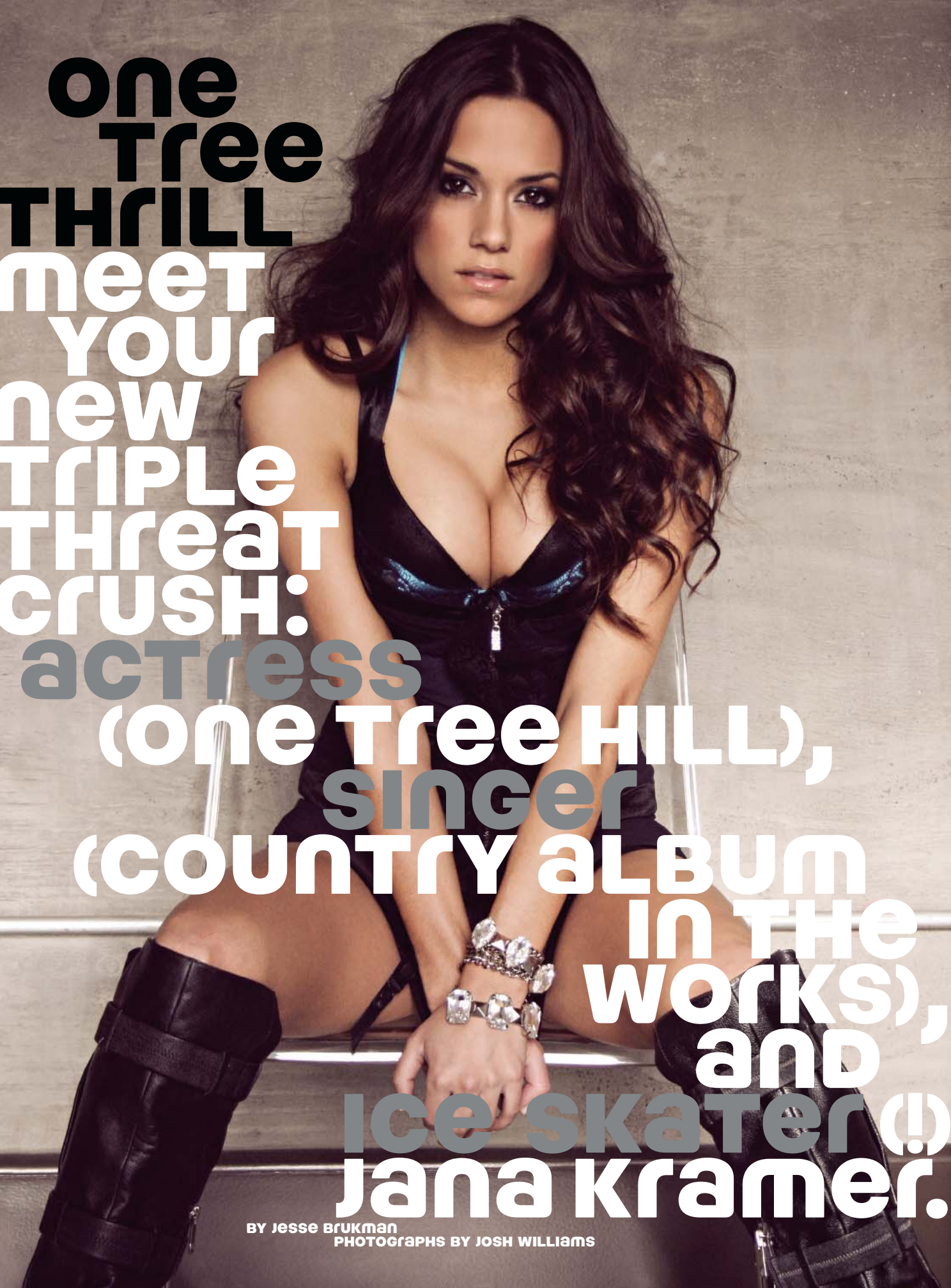
CIGARETTES

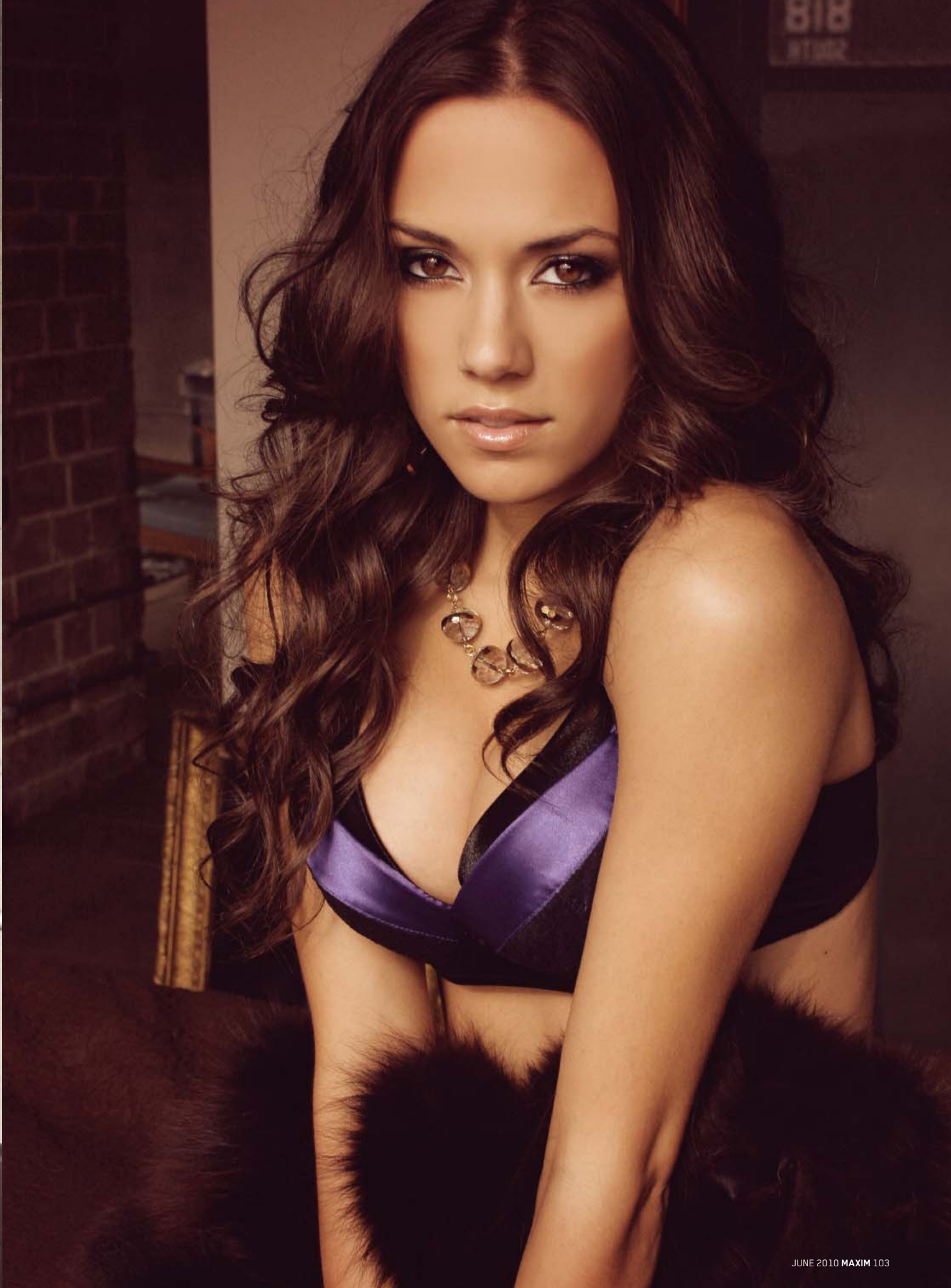


One Tree Thrill

Meet your new triple threat crush: actress (One Tree Hill), singer (country album in the works), and ice skater (!) Jana Kramer.

BY Jesse Brukman

PHOTOGRAPHS BY Josh Williams



IS THERE ANYTHING JANA KRAMER *CAN'T* DO? **The 26-year-old Michigan beauty heated up ice rinks for 13 years before jumping for New York City to chase acting. Cut to seven years later and Jana's guested on TV's sexiest shows (*Entourage, Friday Night Lights, 90210*), plays Alex on the CW drama *One Tree Hill*, and is about to release a country album. She's made her dreams come true, and she's about to do the same to yours.**

So figure skating? Really?
Yeah! I even did the pregame show at Detroit Red Wings games. Like, skating around waving the flag, getting the crowd excited. Growing up in a small town in Michigan, I was a pretty big sports fan. It's tough here in L.A. because everyone says, "Oh, I'm a Lakers fan!" Really? Why? Because you've lived here for about 10 minutes.

How did you go from small-town skater to Hollywood player?
The day I graduated high school, I left for New York City. I started out on *All My Children,* but I decided if I was really going to make it, I had to go to L.A.

Then what?
A few months later, I flew to Romania for the lead in a small movie and immediately started feeling sick. But I didn't want to complain and be considered a problem. Eventually I had to go to the hospital. The doctor could barely speak English but said I had to get my appendix out. They did the surgery, and six days of recovery time grew into two weeks when I caught pneumonia. I flew back to America, and the doctors here explained it was never my appendix; it was my gall bladder, and if they didn't get it out I was going to die.

Good thing you didn't, because now you can be the rebellious Alex on *One Tree Hill*!
She's new to the show and is sort of a model-slash-diva. She did drugs and was all over the place and now has to get her shit together. Sounds awesome, right?

Indeed! Now tell us about this music career.
It's a huge part of my life—I've just been afraid to pursue it. In acting you get rejected 99.9 percent of the time, but I'm OK with that. In my music, because it's all me out there, if someone says, "I don't like it," that hurts a lot more.

Will you have to choose between the two?
No. You have to go out and tour and promote, sure, but music is by far my passion. The acting will just help to promote that.

How did you get into country music in Michigan?
There are so many rednecks up in Michigan! I used to go up north to Traverse City and listen to Patsy Cline and Johnny Cash. The music told a story and got me through some tough times. Don't worry, there's a huge country music scene there. And there are definitely some hicks. ●

/// BELOW /// AN ARMY MEDEVAC BLACK HAWK FLIES OVER THE SHOMALI PLAIN IN EASTERN AFGHANISTAN. /// RIGHT /// A CREW CHIEF AT BAGRAM DEICES HIS HELICOPTER.

M*A*S*H

ELEVATION: 10,000 FEET

HIGH ABOVE THE WAR-TORN AFGHAN FRONT, THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE U.S. ARMY'S HELICOPTER MEDEVAC CORPS RACE AGAINST TIME, TENDING TO THOSE INJURED—BOTH FRIEND AND FOE—IN THIS NINE-YEAR-OLD CONFLICT. IN A WORLD WHERE THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE IS TAKING LIVES, THEIR TASK IS TO SAVE THEM.

BY MATTHEW POWER PHOTOGRAPHS BY MIKHAIL GALUSTOV

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THE AMERICAN AIRFIELD IN JALALABAD, AFGHANISTAN LIES IN THE KABUL RIVER VALLEY, RIGHT WHERE THE KHYBER PASS WINDS

up through the snow-covered mountains that border Pakistan. JAF, as the base is known, is an island of American military power in a sea of hostile territory, surrounded by razor wire, earth-filled barriers, and guard posts. The tarmac is lined with the aircraft that play a central role in the nine-year-old war: Apache and Kiowa attack helicopters armed to the teeth; huge double-rotor Chinook troop transports; and Black Hawks, the workhorses of the U.S. military presence here. Every hour or so a Predator drone—the unmanned aerial vehicles that are revolutionizing warfare—takes off with a high-pitched whine, armed with spy cameras and Hellfire missiles.

I am sitting with a handful of pilots, crew chiefs, and medics on a covered porch looking out over the runway. They are sprawled in a row of homemade lounge chairs, where they often sit for hours talking trash and smoking cigars. Rocky Blair, a shaved-headed medic from Humble, Texas, and Zack Blansett, a 24-year-old medic from Arkansas with a wide smile and a Southern drawl, swap stories of their tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. In 2007, Blansett—nicknamed Matt Damon for his resemblance to the actor—was deployed as a ground combat medic in Ramadi, Iraq when a grenade slammed into the turret of his Humvee. His right arm and left hand were shredded by red-hot shrapnel, his gunner was wounded, and his driver was knocked out cold. Blansett put a tourniquet on himself. "It wasn't very pleasant, but it probably saved my arm," he says. Then he helped carry his injured driver 400 yards to safety while laying down suppressive fire. "They tried to give me a medical discharge when I was wounded," says Blansett, shaking his head. "I was like, 'Nope.'" He has dreams of becoming an intelligence officer, and in any event he had no desire to quit the job he had sacrificed so much for. So after three surgeries on his right arm, five surgeries on his left hand, and six months of recovery, he passed his fitness test and returned to Iraq. He's got a Purple Heart to show for it and a doctor's note to show airport security when he sets off metal detectors.

Blansett and Blair are members of DUSTOFF, the nickname for the U.S. Army's helicopter medevac corps (an acronym for "dedicated, unhesitating service to our fighting forces"). With units stationed at every large American base, Dustoff's job is to evacuate the wounded from the roadsides, villages, and outposts of eastern Afghanistan: not just coalition forces, but also Afghan civilians and even the enemy. The region is crawling with insurgents armed with surface-to-air missiles and boasts some of the most difficult flying conditions on Earth. For the past three days, blizzard conditions have kept the helicopters grounded, but now the gray ceilings of cloud are lifting, and everyone knows it's just a matter of time before a call comes in.

Medevac missions are ranked as urgent, priority, or routine. When a unit receives an urgent call, it's aloft within 15 minutes, blasting its Black Hawk choppers over the landscape at 180 mph, trying to reach the wounded within the "golden hour"—that brief window of time before a patient goes from casualty to fatality. As one medevac pilot

/// ABOVE /// JOSEPH McCORMICK TREATS A U.S. SOLDIER INJURED BY A ROADSIDE IED.
/// LEFT /// MEDICS TRANSPORT A PATIENT TO A HELICOPTER BOUND FOR JALALABAD.

with three tours of Iraq and Afghanistan puts it, "If the no-shit phone rings, get your shit and start running."

This is the "slow season," if a period when casualties have doubled over the previous year can be called slow. The real action will start in the spring, but for now the passes over the mountains from Pakistan are snowed in, and the bad guys are staying warm in their caves. Still, it's never long before something happens.

The call comes in on the "nine line," the medevac's coded alert system, for an evacuation at Korengal Outpost, a.k.a. KOP. One of the most frequently attacked positions in Afghanistan, KOP is a tiny base perched atop a ridgeline above the Korengal Valley. A key smuggling route for centuries, the valley is often used by militants. The locals are extremely hostile to the American presence in the region. Nicknamed the Valley of Death, Korengal was so dangerous that, as *Maxim* was going to press, the U.S. Army closed KOP for good.

Blair runs for his gear, followed by the pilots Jeff Roberts, from Atlanta, and Alex Scott, a soft-spoken 28-year-old from Vermont. Kevlar body armor is strapped on, flight helmets and night-vision goggles are grabbed, and the crew jogs across the tarmac. The Geneva Conventions dictate that medevac helicopters must be unarmed apart from the small sidearms carried by the crews, so Dustoff flies with a "chase" helicopter, an Apache armed with a heavy machine gun, rockets, and missiles. I pile into the back of the medevac chopper and strap into the harness. The twin 1,600 hp engines spool up to a deafening roar, and the vibrating mass of the Black Hawk eases into the air as if dangling by a string.

Glimpsed out the window of a Black Hawk flying 500 feet above Afghanistan, the jagged, snow-covered spires of the Hindu Kush glow in the afternoon light. Below us spreads an intimate vision of rural Afghan life, an irregular patchwork of wheat fields, vineyards, and apricot orchards scattered with ancient villages. It is a pastoral scene unchanged for centuries, and for a country torn by decades of war and unimaginable human suffering, it looks surprisingly serene.

Flying low enough to make out footprints in the snow, we approach the Korengal Valley. Over the radio the pilots are notified that the landing zone at KOP is hot, taking direct, heavy machine-gun fire. We circle, waiting as another pair of Apaches strafe the position and an F16 jet flying overhead unleashes a laser-guided 500-pound bomb. After a few minutes the landing zone is declared clear and we drop in a tight spiral into the valley. "Get your middle finger ready in case they're shooting at us!" Blair shouts over the intercom, joking about the medevac's lack of any actual on-board defense options.

As we make a rapid descent onto KOP's helipad, several infantrymen crouch behind a set of earthen barriers, their rifles scanning the ridgelines. Blair runs out to meet the outpost's medic team, and several men hustle a wounded soldier onto the helicopter. Barely on the ground a minute, the chopper's engines roar as it takes off into the sky. On the stretcher lies a stocky young soldier with a full-sleeve tattoo over a hideously shattered arm. He was hit by a heavy supply box during a food drop. Blair gives him a pain-killing fentanyl lollipop and attempts to put in an IV as the helicopter strains at top speed out of the valley. In 20 minutes we are touching down in Jalalabad, safe behind the American wire in a very dangerous place.

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JALALABAD IS JUST A TINY OUTPOST COMPARED TO BAGRAM, the massive former Soviet airbase where the medevac—and much of the U.S. military high command—is headquartered. Bagram is also home to one of only two Level III hospitals in Afghanistan, where the most critically wounded can be stabilized before being

/// ABOVE /// MEDIC KEITH RUDD TREATS AN INSURGENT WHO WAS SHOT WHILE PLACING A ROADSIDE BOMB. THE U.S. MEDEVAC TREATS INJURED SOLDIERS AND ENEMY POW'S ALIKE.

flown to the huge military hospitals at Landstuhl, Germany and Walter Reed Army Medical Center outside of Washington, D.C. Bagram is Fortress America, complete with a Burger King in a shipping container, as well as a Pizza Hut and a Popeyes. Afghan-run stores (with the rather un-PC nickname Haji-Marts) sell carpets, trinkets, pirated DVDs, and video games. One of the most popular is *Call of Duty 2: Modern Warfare*, a decidedly nonescapist choice. "We play *Call of Duty* because regular war isn't interesting enough," one medic jokes.

The Army's first helicopter medical evacuations were flown in Burma at the end of World War II in 1945, but it was in Vietnam that the nickname Dustoff was coined. The legendary Vietnam medevac pilot Charles "Mad Man" Kelly is the unit's patron saint. His three core principles: Never refuse a mission, never return with an empty chopper, and the needs of the patient come first. Kelly flew hundreds of missions; he was killed on July 1, 1964 by a sniper while picking up a group of injured soldiers. He'd been told to leave a landing zone that was under fire, but he refused to take off empty. His last words were, "When I have your wounded." They are Dustoff's motto to this day.

Stateside, these units—part of the 3rd Infantry Division—all train and work together at Hunter Army Airfield in Georgia, and while the wounds have not changed much, the medicine has. Today medics can administer drugs to control blood pressure and keep patients stabilized while simultaneously monitoring vital-signs machines. "We're keeping them alive in the back of the aircraft, a couple of thousand feet over Afghanistan, in the dark, by ourselves," says Joseph McCormick, a medic based at Bagram. "It can be kind of hairy."

The very nature of medevac means that—while they are always on call—there is a good deal of downtime, and pranks are an essential stress relief. Some are straight out of *The Office*: a coffeepot filled with Jell-O or a hat nailed to a table. While I was there, Maj. Jason Wilson, the medevac commander at Bagram, left his helmet's weight bag in a helicopter. He proceeded to receive a series of ransom notes, along with pictures of the bag being threatened with a pistol and waterboarded. It was finally returned to him in a flag-draped shoebox.

The porch at Jalalabad—nicknamed Club Medic—is decorated with the insignia of every medevac crew that has rotated through; the current unit has adopted a 17th-century pirate flag as its standard, complete with raised sword, grinning skull and crossbones, and winged hourglass. They call themselves Pirate Dustoff, or just Pirates. An earlier crew built a huge brick pizza oven and barbecue pit, and Rocky Blair recently made a giant pot of Texas chili with hamburger liberated from the mess hall. The only thing missing was a keg: Army regulations forbid alcohol, and medevac crews aren't even allowed to drink the nonalcoholic beer served at the mess hall, which still contains 0.5 percent alcohol and will keep them grounded for 12 hours.

Next door the inside of a shipping container has been turned into a band room, complete with a drum kit and a half-dozen electric guitars. The crews sleep in plywood shacks, and most of them keep in touch with their families at home via cell phone and laptop. All the communication technologies of modern life are available, but that doesn't make the distance or the difficulties of communicating their experiences to the folks back home any easier to endure.

WORDS OF WARCRAFT

DUSTOFF: ACRONYM FOR DEDICATED, UNHESITATING SERVICE TO OUR FIGHTING FORCES. // **GOLDEN HOUR:** THE BRIEF WINDOW OF TIME TO GET A CRITICALLY INJURED PATIENT TO CARE. // **NO-SHIT PHONE:** THE TELEPHONE AT DUSTOFF HEADQUARTERS THAT ALERTS THE CREW TO A

/// ABOVE /// A PAIR OF SHIPPING CONTAINERS AT BAGRAM HAVE BEEN CONVERTED INTO A LOUNGE NICKNAMED THE CIGAR SHACK, WHERE MEDEVAC CREWS RELAX BETWEEN MISSIONS.

Alex Scott, the Jalalabad Dustoff captain, has a wife at home in Georgia whom he talks with on Skype every day. "I talk to her, but I don't tell her all the gory stuff," he says. This is a common thread among Dustoff crews, who see more of the worst parts of war than almost anyone else. "You can't tell your wife about the missions; it'll just upset her," says Warrant Officer 2 Clinton Carter, a pilot based at Bagram who was a pro bull rider in a previous life. "It's stuff you don't want to talk about, don't want to think about." Readjusting to "normal" life can be as daunting as going to the war zone in the first place. "What's scary is you get used to it, then you get home and wonder where it's at," says Rocky Blair.

The small semblances of ordinary life are just minor distractions from the extremely dangerous work Dustoff's missions require. This is the second or third deployment for many of the crews. They flew missions in Iraq for 14 months and had been home less than a year when they were redeployed to Afghanistan. Dustoff's choppers had even flown rescue missions after Hurricane Katrina, plucking hundreds of survivors off rooftops in New Orleans. "We're like a family," says Wilson, a 39-year-old veteran of the first Gulf War with a world-weary smile and a perpetual dip of Copenhagen. "Which is good, because we spend more time with each other than with our real families."

"THE GUYS BACK THERE ARE UP TO THEIR ELBOWS IN BLOOD AND GUTS," SAYS WILSON.

Because their mission is to save lives, the medevac crews are cleared to fly in much worse conditions than other helicopters, and the fact that they're unarmed makes them no less of a target to the Taliban. Speed is their best defense, and flying low to the ground at nearly 200 mph gives enemies little time to react. The Black Hawks also have a decoy system: magnesium flares that trick the guidance systems of incoming heat-seeking missiles. On a flight to pick up an Afghan policeman who had been shot near the town of Asadabad, I watched in rapt horror as flares launched themselves—bright green fireworks rocketing away from the ship. Scott assured me it was a misfire, but it was a frightening reminder of the dangers Dustoff faces every day. Referring to the ship's red cross, Wilson told me, "We've got a big target on our side." The worst-case scenario is a direct hit to the tail rotor, which can put the helicopter into an uncontrollable spin, sending it plummeting to a fiery end. If the helicopter loses power, its main rotor can serve as a kind of air brake, slowing the descent. "But you'd better hope you're over somewhere good to land," Wilson adds. In the mountains of Afghanistan, there's little guarantee of that.

The challenges of piloting are great, but Wilson gives more credit to the medics in the back, who see things up close that a pilot never has to deal with. "Even as jaded and sarcastic as you get, it gets to

MEDICAL EMERGENCY. // **NINE LINE:** THE MEDEVAC'S CODED ALERT SYSTEM. // **CHASE:** HEAVILY ARMED HELICOPTER THAT ESCORTS THE UNARMED DUSTOFF CHOPPERS INTO THE COMBAT ZONE. // **FOB (FORWARD OPERATING BASE):** ANY SECURED FORWARD POSITION USED TO SUPPORT TACTICAL OPERATIONS.

/// ABOVE LEFT /// A BLACK HAWK STENCIL ON THE WALL OF A BARRACKS IN BAGRAM.
/// RIGHT /// DUSTOFF MEMBERS SHOOT HOOPS IN A SOVIET-ERA HANGAR AT BAGRAM.

you," he says. "I'm just an ambulance driver, but these guys back there are up to their elbows in blood and guts."

The chance to help injured soldiers is a key motivation for many in the medevac crews. It's a deep calling, and for some it's profoundly personal. Capt. Erika Noyes, 26, with bright blue eyes and her hair tied up in a bun, is on her second deployment as a Dustoff pilot, having spent 14 months in Iraq. She graduated from West Point in 2005, in the same class as her boyfriend, Tom Martin. She joined air medevac straight out of college, while Martin became a sniper-scout platoon leader. They were soon engaged, with plans for a big wedding when they finished their deployments. In fall 2007 both were in Iraq, with Noyes' unit operating in support of Martin's.

On October 14, 2007, a nine-line call came in for an urgent injury. Noyes was on duty that night, and as soon as she heard that a sniper-scout platoon leader had been hit, "I knew it was Tom right away." She ran to pack her gear so she could meet him at the hospital, but a few minutes later there was a "commo blackout," the Army's policy of shutting down communications when a soldier has died to prevent unofficial word from reaching their families at home. Tom had been shot. Medics worked heroically to treat him, both on the ground and in the air, and the Baghdad combat support hospital where he was flown followed suit, but he was declared dead shortly after arriving. He had turned 27 just a few days before. Noyes went to see his body in the hospital morgue. In the bag of personal effects she was handed, she found his class ring from West Point, and slipped it over her thumb. Her eyes mist up when she shares the story, but she keeps her composure. Telling and retelling Tom's story is therapeutic in some way. "It keeps his memory alive," she says.

After the funeral Noyes was offered a chance to be transferred out of the war zone, but she refused. "I was going to be miserable no matter where I was," she says. "At least if I was in Iraq, I stood a chance of helping somebody else. And potentially that next person we picked up would be somebody else's Tom."

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AS A SENIOR IN HIGH SCHOOL, ZACK BLANSETT WAS A FOOTBALL player unsure of what he wanted from college; he felt that joining Army would help him mature a bit while serving his country. He was interested in the medical field but also liked outdoor sports, so "combat medic" seemed the right career choice. "I left for basic training two weeks after I graduated high school, and I haven't looked back since," he says. An 18-week course certifies a ground medic, teaching how to control bleeding and other basic medical skills. Flight medevacs go through four more weeks of extensive individual training, and after Blansett was wounded in Iraq he returned to train for Dustoff. He's now been a medic, on ground and in air, for six years. Just a week ago, he was called on one of the riskiest missions he has ever flown.

Forward Operating Base Blessing, an outpost in neighboring Kunar province, comes under almost daily fire from insurgents. On February 8, right in the middle of some of the worst weather of the winter, a mortar round crashed through the roof of the base's gym, killing a contractor and causing a severe concussion to a young soldier. If he wasn't evacuated, his chances of survival were minimal.

Flying conditions were terrifying, with no missions in or out for three days. "Ceilings were on the ground, and visibility was about a half-mile," remembers Alex Scott. Despite the risks, a crew went out, with Blansett as medic and Tori Wade and Jeff Roberts as pilots. On their first attempt, they were turned back by the weather, but they landed and refueled, desperate to try again. The second time they made it, and the soldier is expected to make a full recovery. Wade, a female pilot with five years of experience, said it was the second-worst flying conditions she'd ever witnessed, after a freak snowstorm over Baghdad that nearly caused a midair collision with Alex Scott's helicopter. To Scott such risks are the essence of Dustoff's job. "If we hadn't flown that mission, nobody would have thought less of us," he says. "But that soldier could have died." He's recommending Wade and Roberts for the Distinguished Flying Cross, one of the highest honors a pilot can receive.

"WE COULD HAVE SAVED THOSE SOLDIERS IF THEY'D JUST LET US IN," SAYS BLANSETT.

One afternoon at Bagram, a call is received for a priority transfer, and a pair of Black Hawks fly out over the Hindu Kush to the hospital at Salerno, a base 70 miles away. Two U.S. soldiers need to be brought to Bagram for treatment after their vehicle was struck by an improvised explosive device, or IED. The flight's medic, Joseph McCormick, oversees the soldiers as they are wheeled onto the helipad. McCormick, a 33-year-old from St. Petersburg, Florida, tends to them in the cramped back of the helicopter. He works in dim blue light, so as not to interfere with the night-vision goggles used by the pilots up front. McCormick crawls between the soldiers, making hand gestures to check their condition over the roar of the rotors. If they don't respond through the haze of morphine and valium, he'll slap them until they do. It can be an exhausting, difficult place to work, and if patients flatline in flight it's up to the medic to attempt CPR, defibrillation, anything to save their lives.

It's not only U.S. soldiers the medevac units are responsible for. A recent mission involved transferring an injured service dog that had been tangled in concertina wire. Dustoff has rescued local children hurt by Soviet-era land mines and Afghan soldiers and civilians, even wounded Taliban. One afternoon a mission is called in for an enemy prisoner of war transfer. A pair of Black Hawks land at Camp Salerno, and flight medic Keith Rudd climbs out of the helicopter and makes

/// ABOVE /// A MEDEVAC CREW CHIEF AT BAGRAM PREPARES FOR ANOTHER MISSION. WHEN AN URGENT CALL COMES IN, CREWS ARE IN THE AIR WITHIN 15 MINUTES.

his way into the hospital. On a bed surrounded by life-support machines, a young Afghan lies with a glazed look in his eyes. A ventilator tube snakes out of his throat as a machine pumps air into his lungs. He was shot by a U.S. patrol while placing a roadside bomb.

A soldier whose truck had been blown up in the same spot a few days earlier had helped the medics save the insurgent, whose intestines were spilling out of his bullet wounds. This was a person who was actively trying to kill them and their comrades just days before, but Army regulations require that all patients be given the same level of care. "They're killing our brethren. I'll do my job, but I don't have to feel it here," Rudd says, tapping his heart.

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THE JALALABAD DUSTOFF SHARES ITS HEAD-quarters with the Apache attack helicopter crews, and a good-natured sibling rivalry exists between the two. All pilots, even the female ones, have a macho demeanor, but Apache pilots are a breed apart. One of them jokes about the medevac choppers being mere "flying taxis" compared to the Apaches' "two-seated attack platforms."

Tori Wade, a female pilot, retorts, "Watch out or I'll put you on the 'do not pick up' list."

"I wasn't planning on getting picked up," says an Apache pilot.

"Nobody ever *plans* it," says Wade.

Apaches certainly have some bragging rights. They are among the most efficient killing machines ever devised, carrying a dizzying array of weaponry: 30 mm cannon with exploding rounds, Hellfire missiles, and rockets loaded with white phosphorus high explosives or fléchettes, which are essentially razor-sharp darts. They are frighteningly effective.

By nature the war is imbalanced, with 21st-century weaponry fighting a scattered and battle-hardened insurgency often armed with rusting Soviet machine guns and deploying roadside bombs and suicide attacks. On a level playing field there's no contest, but as one pilot memorably puts it: "Them Talibanese fuckers ain't dumb."

A 25-year-old Apache pilot, so baby-faced he still gets carded for tobacco, sits at a monitor watching video of a recent mission. The display shows an infrared image of three figures sprinting down a mountainside. They are Taliban fighters who have just narrowly avoided being killed by a 500-pound bomb dropped by a fighter jet. The pilot is hovering a mile away, watching their every move. A small laser-guided cross follows the group as he secures permission to launch a Hellfire. A black dot drops in from the upper corner of the screen, and the three men are obliterated in a bloom of white fire.

The footage is surreal, like a nightmarish video game with real-world deaths, and the Apache pilots have made a greatest-hits album of sorts from such missions, commonly called "Apache porn," set to a soundtrack by Slayer. This is his first kill, and he's indignant when the Air Force tries to take credit when clearly they missed. Between the bomb and the Hellfire, it was an expensive hit, perhaps $100,000 in munitions on three raggedy Taliban. But such is the nature of the war. He doesn't worry too much about the larger implications of taking people out; this is the job he has trained for years to do. "I don't lose any sleep over it. They're the bad guys," he says. "There's consequences for being a dumb-ass."

Although a crucial part of the war may now be conducted by remote-controlled drones or from the Xbox-like distance of an Apache, the work of Dustoff is still as hands-on as it gets, and a willingness to push the limits, of both themselves and their aircraft, is essential to the job. If someone is wounded, the men and women of Dustoff will do whatever they can to help them. It's as simple as that. An early experience caused a great deal of frustration in this regard. On October 9, a remote outpost called FOB Keating came under a massive coordinated attack. Three hundred Taliban fighters swarmed at the camp from two directions with mortars, RPGs, and heavy machine guns.

Dozens of U.S. troops were wounded, but because the base was still under attack, the risk-averse higher command wouldn't let medevac flights in. The Dustoff Black Hawks were forced to wait for hours before gaining clearance to gather up the wounded. "It was a mess," says Alex Scott. "It finally came down to us getting into a shouting match with the task force commanders. Then they let us go." Blansett still resents being held back: "We could have saved people if they'd allowed us in. There were two fatalities at the beginning of the day, and there were eight at the end of the day." By now they feel like they've earned the trust of their commanders to decide just how far they can push themselves; the bad-weather rescue mission was clear evidence of that. "We showed these guys we could basically pull a rabbit out of a hat at will," says Scott. Their sense of confidence and determination is enviable, at least in a war where clarity of purpose is a rare commodity.

While the U.S. military in Afghanistan is desperate to avoid civilian casualties, the other side plays by an entirely different set of rules, where any American death can be used to their advantage. Dustoff flies unarmed into the heart of a war zone—risking all to help injured Afghans—but it's unclear yet whether that strategy is paying off in goodwill.

Whether the coalition policy of trying to win Afghan hearts and minds ultimately ends the war or becomes another cruel irony in the bloody march of the country's history is yet to be seen, but as long as the U.S. is there, the air medevacs will be flying their missions. On the porch in Jalalabad and the hangar at Bagram, the Dustoff crews will sit around and tell the endless stories they have collected: the unfortunately named Captain Brown, who crapped his flight suit in a helicopter; the ambulance driver in Baghdad who was knocked out cold when the propeller wash slammed his door open; the lucky medic who accidentally stabbed himself with an auto-injector of morphine. The stories and trash talk and camaraderie will fill the hours (which get shorter and shorter as the summer season picks up) before that robotic voice crackles once again over the radio: *nine line, nine line, nine line.* And then they'll drop everything and go. ●

TEAM DUSTOFF

ZACK BLANSETT
MEDIC, **24**
"I DO THE JOB I DO NOW BECAUSE I WANTED TO HELP THE GUYS COMING OFF THE BATTLEFIELD."

ROCKY BLAIR
MEDIC, **32**
"WE HAVE OUR PROTOCOLS, BUT WHEN WE GET ON THE GROUND THEY GO RIGHT OUT THE WINDOW."

ERIKA NOYES
PILOT, **26**
"EVER SINCE MY SOPHOMORE YEAR I KNEW I WANTED TO BE A MEDEVAC PILOT."

ALEX SCOTT
PILOT, **28**
"WE GET A MISSION, WE'RE GOING TO COMPLETE IT."

TORI WADE
PILOT, **29**
"NOBODY EVER PLANS ON HAVING TO GET PICKED UP."

JASON WILSON
COMMANDER, **39**
"WE'RE FIGHTING IN THE MOST DIFFICULT TERRAIN IMAGINABLE, THE ROOFTOP OF THE WORLD."

STEEZ THE DAY

From getting paid to getting laid, here's how to hone your look for every hour of the summer.

BY MIKE DAWSON
PHOTOGRAPHS BY BRIAN KLUTCH

COOL UNDER PRESSURE

IF YOU PIMP PLAID, LET THE SHIRT DO THE TALKING AND TONE DOWN THE TIE.
DARK SUITS MAKE YOU LOOK SLIMMER. KEEP ON GORGING!
SITTING ON YOUR WALLET = BACK PAIN. CLIP CASH AND POCKET THE REST.
THESE KICKS GO WITH SUITS, JEANS, AND KHAKIS.

→ Brave the stickiest days in style with the miracle fabric that is linen. Unlike most linen suits, this Simon Spurr is wrinkle-proof thanks to a sturdy cotton blend, so you stay crisp while your overheated cube mates slink toward Schlubville. Go classic with a white shirt or bold with plaid. Come weekends, ditch the stiff collar for a tee or polo, then pair with clean sneaks.

SIMON SPURR blazer, $1,670, and pants, $535; **GANT** shirt, $115; **ARMANI EXCHANGE** tie, $48; **RAY-BAN** sunglasses, $129; **TIFFANY & CO.** money clip, $175; **CUFFLINKS, INC** bottle-opener cuff links, $50; **TAG HEUER** watch, $6,500; **BOHDI** briefcase, $798; **POSTE** shoes, $155.

WORK TIME

POWER IN THE HEAT

CHECK OUT STYLE EDITOR WILLIAM BUCKLEY'S BLOG AT MAXIM.COM/STYLE
LIGHTWEIGHT WOOL WILL CARRY YOU THROUGH ALL FOUR SEASONS.
BLING THAT LETS 'EM KNOW YOU MEAN BIZ.
DETAILS LIKE THIS SKY BLUE LINING DISTINGUISH YOU FROM THE DRONES.
WHEN IT COMES TO BELTS AND SHOES, ALWAYS MATCH COLOR AND TEXTURE.

→ Neutral colors turn this getup into a killer summer power suit. And it doesn't have to play conservative: Loud ties, pastel and gingham shirts, and even that plaid job on the left can seamlessly cycle into your set. Wear it clocking time in the office or buttering up bridesmaids. It's the ultimate utility player.

MOODS OF NORWAY suit jacket, $449, vest, $139, and pants, $ 139; **ROBERT JAMES** shirt, $168, and tie, $55; **APPLE** iPod, $150; **TUMI** wallet, $148, and attaché, $1,995; **ORIS** watch, $2,295; **D&G** belt, $220; **OFFICE** shoes, $54.

YOUR TIME

→ Be it the BBQ, the ball game, or the post-booze-a-thon coffee run, say hello to your new fall-out-of-bed weekend unis. Simplicity, comfort, and enough street-smart style to catch some cute honey's eye. Say word, son!

OLD SCHOOL

NEW PREP

D&G sweater, $235; **GANT** shirt, $115; **LEVI'S** shorts, $44.

THIS LIGHT-WEIGHT CARDIGAN WON'T SWEAT YOU. PLUS, YOU CAN PLAY HERO AND OFFER IT TO HER.

THESE NEW RETRO RAY-BANS GIVE YOU INSTANT ICON STATUS.

IF YOU SUB IN SHORTS AND HIGH-TOP IT, NEVER LET 'EM SEE SOCKS.

SHIPLEY & HALMOS cardigan, $260; **CALVIN KLEIN** sweater, $295, and pants, $295; **PAUL SMITH** hat, $195; **OLYMPUS** camera, $599; **RAY-BAN** sunglasses, $129; **NOOKA** watch, $130; **ADIDAS** sneakers, $50; **CROSS STEP BY ARBOR SKATEBOARDS** board, $200.

STYLING, JEN GREENE/OLIVER PIRO

DAY TRIPPER

NIGHT RIDER

CALVIN KLEIN COLLECTION polo, $495; **BOSS BLACK** jacket, $695.

IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE WRINKLED. JUST BE SURE YOUR SHIRT, JEANS, AND BENJAMINS AREN'T, PLAYA.

YOU ALREADY KNOW TO SILENCE THE CELL. LET HER SEE YOU POCKET IT IN STYLE WITH THIS POUCH.

CREASED DENIM IS BACK IN N.Y.C. AND TOKYO. PLEATS? STILL D-BAG CITY.

HER TIME

➔ Ensure you get dessert by dressing up your denim when wining and dining your lady. You'll look sharp without trying too hard, which is the number one style rule for us *real* guys. Foolproof your date night by ditching the sneakers. Instead, smarten up with these patterned leathers. Remember, it's the first thing women notice*.

*After they peep your package.

D&G jacket, $495; **GUCCI** sunglasses, $275; **H&M** shirt, $18; **SONY** Bloggie MP4 camera, $170; **PRADA** wallet, $2,570; **ZARA** denim, $80; **DOM PÉRIGNON** vintage 2000, $150; **FLORSHEIM BY DUCKIE BROWN** shoes, $295.

SHIELD YOURSELF from SWEAT & ODOR

Gillette Odor Shield Anti-Perspirant and Body Wash help eliminate odor instead of just covering it up. ***Odor Shield technology*** targets and neutralizes body odor at the source. And when used together, you get ***10x more odor protection coverage****—so you can perform under pressure, even during these potentially intense situations.

PRESSURE POINT: THE BIG DAY
Nah, not yours: It's your buddy's wedding day and you're on best man duty. As if giving the speech weren't bad enough, you're stuck in a rented monkey suit all day. Thank goodness for bridesmaids—but how are you going to smell when it's time to get down and dance?

CONFIDENCE SHIELD: Suds up with Gillette Odor Shield Body Wash and roll on Gillette Odor Shield Anti-Perspirant before you suit up in the morning, and do the Electric Slide with pride.

PRESSURE POINT: THE GYM
Who says fitness classes are for chicks? You'll gladly work up a sweat for the cycling instructor who looks like a Hollywood starlet. The problem is getting her attention with your six-pack abs instead of your smelly sweat stains.

CONFIDENCE SHIELD: Before your workout, take a shower with Gillette Odor Shield Body Wash and apply Gillette Odor Shield Anti-Perspirant. After class, ask your biking babe if she'd be interested in some personal training sessions. A little freshness goes a long way at the gym!

PRESSURE POINT: JOB INTERVIEW
You've finally scored the interview for your dream job: corner office, expense account, great benefits. Too bad it's 90 degrees with 100% humidity on the one day you have to be cool as a cucumber—and you're supposed to wear a stuffy suit.

CONFIDENCE SHIELD: Don't swap your wingtips for flip-flops. Make Gillette Odor Shield Body Wash and Anti-Perspirant a part of your morning routine and you'll be on track to dazzle human resources with your fresh ideas, not scare them away with your bogus B.O.

PRESSURE POINT: BLIND DATE
You finally agree to take your buddy's cousin on a date, mostly because he has a sweet beach house that would make an excellent summer party house. Turns out the cousin didn't inherit your buddy's bald spot and mustache; in fact, she's gorgeous.

CONFIDENCE SHIELD: You thought you'd be making an excuse to leave after one drink, but it looks like it'll be a long, enjoyable evening. Expect the unexpected with Gillette Odor Shield Body Wash and Anti-Perspirant, and invite her in for a nightcap.

*Total body coverage vs. just using antiperspirant alone

HOW CONFIDENT ARE YOU? FLIP THE PAGE TO FIND OUT

Gillette

How Confident

How often do you duck into the men's room to check your pits during a typical workday?

A. Never

B. Every time you go to the bathroom

C. Only after your boss grills you

How did you spend your last vacation?

A. Climbing Everest

B. Alphabetizing your DVD collection

C. Road trip with your best friend

What's your flirting strategy?

A. Drop a cheesy pickup line

B. Hide behind your wingman and hope she sees you

C. Ask her to show you some moves on the dance floor

You find out you've only got 24 hours to live. What do you do?

A. Tell everyone what you really think of them

B. Curl up into a ball and cry

C. Hop on the next flight to Las Vegas

You lock yourself out of your apartment. What do you do?

A. Scale the fire escape and go in through a window

B. Call your mom to bring over the spare keys

C. Introduce yourself to the hotties down the hall, and ask if you can hang out there till your roommate gets home

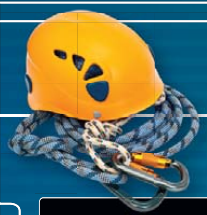
Would you be on a reality show?

A. You're already on one

B. It depends on whether you can bring your special blankie

C. Only for a ton of money

Are You?



True or False:

You would rather plunge a toilet than speak in public

TRUE FALSE

B

WHOA THERE, COWBOY

Confidence is great, except when you rub it in people's faces. No one likes an arrogant dude—so don't stink up your social and dating life by bragging about every single one of your conquests.

MAN UP!

Not to sound like a guidance counselor, but it's time to believe in yourself. Of course, we're not qualified to make that happen, but Gillette Odor Shield Body Wash and Anti-Perspirant can ensure that odor won't hinder your quest for self-esteem.

WE APPLAUD YOU

You already use Gillette Odor Shield Body Wash and Anti-Perspirant, don't you? Only a man with solid confidence in his actions (and his odor) would conduct his life so admirably. Keep up the good work!

Gillette

3 RULES FOR THE PERFECT HAIRCUT

Quit looking like a scrub. Welcome to the definitive guide to finally doing your dome justice.

· 1 ·

SCISSOR FIGHT

Clippers are quicker, but be sure your top and transitions are snipped with scissors, says Jason Schneidman of Chris McMillan Salon in Beverly Hills. Buzzed hair grows uniformly, losing its shape in two weeks. Scissoring doubles your cut's life.

· 2 ·

GO NATURAL

Unless you have long hair (hippie!), ask your barber for a natural neckline, advises stylist Jonathan Antin, a judge on Bravo's *Shear Genius*. This means your hairline gradually fades up. Never get a square line—it looks lame and grows out goofy.

· 3 ·

FACE FACTS

Want to look even better? Then know thy face shape, says Lorraine Carlin, creative director at Truman's Gentlemen's Groomers in New York City. "Most guys don't know this, but the whole point of a haircut is to frame your face and make it look as oval as possible." Check out Carlin's tips below.

HERE'S HOW TO MATCH YOUR FACE SHAPE WITH THE RIGHT CUT:

· ROUND ·

DIMENSIONS: About as wide as it is long
EXAMPLE: Jack Black
GOALS: Even if you're slim, a round face can make you look chubby. To appear thinner, use your haircut to elongate your face and place some corners on your squat mug.
AVOID: Shaved heads
TELL YOUR BARBER: "Keep it short. Tight on the sides with some height on top to both square and stretch my look. And keep my sideburns even with the middle-to-bottom of my ear."
IF YOU ROCK A PART, TELL HIM: "Make it severe and above an eye."
PRO TRICK: To look even more chiseled, angle the bottoms of your 'burns so the front corner points toward your eye.

· OBLONG ·

DIMENSIONS: Longer than it is wide
EXAMPLE: Jake Gyllenhaal
GOALS: Long-faced fellas can sport lengthy or short hair, but your 'cuts must compress the face so you don't look horsey.
AVOID: High-and-tights and long, straight hair
IF YOU HAVE LONG HAIR, TELL YOUR BARBER: "Layer my mop and give it some texture. I want to make sure my hair doesn't appear to be the same length all around, which accentuates my long face."
IF YOU HAVE SHORT HAIR, TELL YOUR BARBER: "Leave the sides full, and I'd like some hair to fall across my ear. The sideburns should end at mid-ear, and please give me a natural neckline or else my profile will look too long.

· SQUARE ·

DIMENSIONS: Forehead is same width as cheeks, jawline
EXAMPLE: Viggo Mortensen
GOALS: Boxy faces need to be lengthened and softened at the edges so you don't look like Schwarzenegger.
AVOID: Flat-tops
TELL YOUR BARBER: "Medium in length. On the sides, go short, but still combable, and please, no clean lines at the ear. I want soft and textured edges to play down my right angles. On top, leave some length: I'd like to have my part/bangs fall across my forehead at an angle to break up the squareness. Keep the sideburns at mid-ear."

· HEART ·

DIMENSIONS: Wide at temple, narrow at chin
EXAMPLE: Patrick Dempsey
GOALS: You inverted triangles need to widen your jawline or women will fear your pointy chin.
AVOID: Middle parts and super-short cuts that pronounce your widow's peak
TELL YOUR BARBER: "Medium in length, textured on top, full on the sides, soft edges. Most important: I need a half-inch to an inch of hair to show behind and below my ear. This will widen my narrow-ass jawline. I don't want the part to fall across or hide any part of my forehead. Keep the sideburns at mid-ear."

MANAGE YOUR MANE

HEY, WET HEAD! THE KEYS TO GOOPING YOUR HAIR: USE WAY LESS THAN YOU DO NOW AND SWITCH TO THESE...

LIGHT HOLD
Bumble and Bumble styling wax, $21, bumbleandbumble.com
Best for: Short, neat hair

MEDIUM HOLD
Urban Rituelle His Hair Stuff $19, endure.net.au
Best for: Bedhead hair

HEAVY HOLD
John Masters pomade, $20, johnmasters.com
Best for: Straight-back Gordon Gekko hair

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HELP ELIMINATE ODOR: DON'T JUST COVER IT UP

10x MORE ODOR PROTECTION COVERAGE
*WHEN USED TOGETHER**

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Odor Shield Anti-Perspirant and Body Wash help eliminate body odor instead of just covering it up. ***Odor Shield technology*** targets and neutralizes body odor at the source. And when used together, you get ***10x more odor protection coverage****. So you can perform under pressure.

TARGETS
SHIELD ZEROES IN ON ODOR

NEUTRALIZES
ODOR COUNTERACTED AT THE SOURCE

PROTECTS
HELPS ELIMINATE BODY ODOR

Gillette®
The Best a Man Can Get™

*Total body coverage vs. just using anti-perspirant alone.

SMELLS OF SUCCESS

THE "NOTES" (OR KEY SMELLS) IN CHICK-MAGNET JUICE HAVE BEEN PROVEN TO AFFECT MOOD, MEMORY, AND EVEN YOUR MEMBER. HERE'S HOW TO HARNESS THE SCIENCE OF SCENT TO GET WHAT YOU WANT.

THE FIRST DATE

CALVIN KLEIN

CK ONE SUMMER, $44
Crisp, airy, citrusy

KEY NOTES

Mandarin: This essential oil is where the citrus vibe is coming from, and it will help keep you cool, even if you have the midsummer meat-sweats.

Marigold and cedarwood: This flower and bark combo will keep you both feeling relaxed and alert.

Violet: A subtle floral that science says will literally intoxicate her. But in a good way, not in a throw-up-in-your-mouth way.

Skin musk: Musk is earthy, primal—so you'll both be revved up. In ancient times musk came from deer glands. These days it's synthetic—still, avoid hunters.

THE SURE THING

RALPH LAUREN

POLO RED, WHITE & BLUE, $53
Rich, deep; musky but sweet

KEY NOTES

Cucumber: If it's seal-the-deal night, then the scent from this long, hard veggie is your pal: A whiff of cucumber actually increases women's vaginal blood flow (a key to her arousal). The study comes from real scientists at the Smell & Taste Treatment and Research Foundation, not some incense-burning aromatherapy yo-yos.

Clary sage: Helps soothe nerves so you'll be calm as a cucumber (see above) as you fumble with her bra clasp and seal the deal.

THE JOB INTERVIEW

PRADA

INFUSION DE VÉTIVER, $79
Spicy, sugary, ultralight

KEY NOTES

Madagascar pepper: This fancy-ass sneeze pebble promotes intellectual stimulation so you'll be on point when explaining away that huge gap in your résumé.

Purple ginger: Keep track of your web of lies from your phone interview with this Far East spice. Purple ginger has long been used as a memory booster.

Tarragon: Sure, you may smell like an Indian restaurant, but this spice helps you relax.

THE PICKUP ARTIST

TRUE RELIGION

TRUE RELIGION MEN, $59
Smoky, woody

KEY NOTES

Coriander: Key for chatting up a lady. It's a destresser, so you'll be free to let your witty, confident self shine—until she Maces you.

Patchouli: This oil is believed to be an aphrodisiac, having helped legions of Phish fans have sex post-drum circle.

Lavender: If you score, this will stave off dick stage fright. According to the Smell & Taste Treatment and Research Foundation, lavender ups the circulation to your member. Translation: boner time!

THE MORNING AFTER

CHRISTIAN AUDIGIER

CHRISTIAN AUDIGIER MEN, $59
Clean but earthy

KEY NOTES

Black vetiver: After you wake up fully clothed in her bed, get home, shower, and splash on this blue-bottled gem. BV is basically Asian switch grass, and it'll jump-start your circulation so you can begin detoxing those shots of Jack.

Pomelo: An old folk remedy, this cousin of the grapefruit is said to give you a virtual face-slap so you can wake the eff up.

Dark rum: We're not saying you should take a swig of the stuff. But there is rum in it. And you know about the whole hair-of-the-dog bit. Just sayin'.

credits

p.8: Michael Harrington, Amy Schlatter at the Rye Studio **p.12:** Joe DeVito, Bobby Blank/WireImage; headphones, UrbanEars; surfing alpaca, Reuters/Pilar Olivares; Hungarian puli dog, Reuters/Stefan Wermuth **p.18:** Dwarves, Reuters/Nir Elias (4); friends at bar, Andresr/Shutterstock; party sign, Gunnar Pippel/Shutterstock **p.20:** Argentina, Universal Images Group Limited/Alamy; Bermuda, Universal Images Group Limited/Alamy; Iran, Universal Images Group Limited/Alamy; Saudi Arabia, Universal Images Group Limited/Alamy; Andrew WK, Ann Coulter, Stephen Lovekin/Getty Images; Jim Norton, Angela Weiss/Getty Images; Anne Slowey, Astrid Stawiarz/Getty Images; Nolé Marin, legs, Karan Kapoor/Getty Images; sushi, Roman Sigaev/Shutterstock **p.22:** Reprinted from *Other People's Rejection Letters*, by Bill Shapiro. © 2010 **p.24:** Northern Ireland v. England, Phil Cole/Getty Images; Yesica Toscanini, Evan Agostini/Getty Images; Alessia Ventura, Vittorio Zunino Celotto/Getty Images; Cheryl Cole, Andreas Rentz/Getty Images for Hubert Burda Media; Marouane Fellaini, Graham Stuart/AFP/Getty Images; Djibril Cisse, Boris Horvat/AFP/Getty Images; Mauro German Camoranesi, Giuseppe Bellini/Getty Images; fan with Vuvuzela, Ulrich Doering/Alamy; Saifi helps carry fan, Reuters/Louafi Larbi; Eren Derdiyok, Christof Koepsel/Bongarts/Getty Images; soccer ball, Creative Crop/Getty Images; Alena Seredova, Babirad/Sipa; hooligans, Reuters/Louafi Larbi **pp. 26–28:** Kim Kardashian, Justin Stephens/Corbis Outline; Rihanna, Ellen Von Unwerth; Marisa Miller, Stephan Würth/Lickerish; Blake Lively, Trunk Archive; Katy Perry, Sheryl Nields/August; Olivia Munn, Miko Limm; Elisabetta Canalis, Trunk Archive; Brooklyn Decker, Management + Artists; Megan Fox, Photoshot/Everett Collection; Zoë Saldana, Trunk Archive **p.32:** A-Team, illustration based on photo by Doug Curran/20th Century Fox **p.34:** Dennis Franz, Warner Bros/Everett; Hal Linden, Everett; Bruce Weitz, Everett; Dennis Weaver, Everett; Tom Selleck, CBS-TV/Kobal Collection; *The Whitest Kids U'Know*, Mark Mann/IFC; Lisa Kelly, History/Rick Gershon **p.36:** Stone Temple Pilots, Chapman Baehler **p.38:** *The Next Karate Kid*, Columbia/Kobal Collection; *The Karate Kid*, Columbia/Kobal Collection; The Karate Kid, Columbia/Kobal Collection; *The Next Karate Kid*, Columbia Pictures/courtesy Everett Collection; *The Karate Kid*, Columbia/Kobal Collection **p.44:** Corvette ZR1 for Le Mans, Rick Dole/Getty Images **pp.59–60:** crostini, K. Mewes/Bon Appetit/Alamy; cricket, Emmanuel Lattes/Alamy; scorpion 1, Audrey Snider-Bell/Shutterstock; scorpion 2, Fivespots/Shutterstock **pp.68–69:** Bedbug photo, Oxford Scientific/Getty Images; bedbug micrograph, Lester V. Bergman/Corbis; sea hare, DEA Picture Library/Getty Images; dolphin, Michal Bednarek/Shutterstock; bald ibis, SSPL via Getty Images; honeybee, Kimberly Hosey/Getty Images; octopus, Reuters/Corbis; argonaut octopus, Kelvin Aitken/Peter Arnold Inc.; honey badger, DLILLC/Corbis; naked mole rat, Joel Sartore/National Geographic Stock; fruit fly, Wildlife/Peter Arnold Inc. **pp.92–100:** *UFC Fight Night*: Vera vs. Jones, Jon Kopalof/Getty Images Sport **pp.70–76:** Chris Rock in *Madagascar*, DreamWorks Pictures/Kobal Collection; Chris Rock, C. Taylor Crothers/FilmMagic; Eddie Murphy in *Shrek*, Paramount/courtesy Everett Collection; George Carlin in *Cars*, Walt Disney/courtesy Everett Collection; Wanda Sykes in *Over the Hedge*, DreamWorks Animation LLC/Ronald Grant/Everett Collection; Wanda Sykes stand-up, Jason Merritt/FilmMagic.com; Gilbert Gottfried in *Aladdin*, Buena Vista Pictures/courtesy Everett Collection; Richard Pryor, Bettmann/Corbis; Eddie Murphy, Bettmann/Corbis; George Carlin, HBO/Courtesy: Everett Collection; Gilbert Gottfried, Scott Gries/Getty Images; *Arrested Development*, 20th Century Fox Television/Kobal Collection; David Cross stand-up, Jason Kempin/Getty Images; Amber Tamblyn, Stephen Lovekin/Getty Images for Anchor Bay Entertainment **p.134:** Denis Leary, Dennis Kleiman/Retna Ltd.

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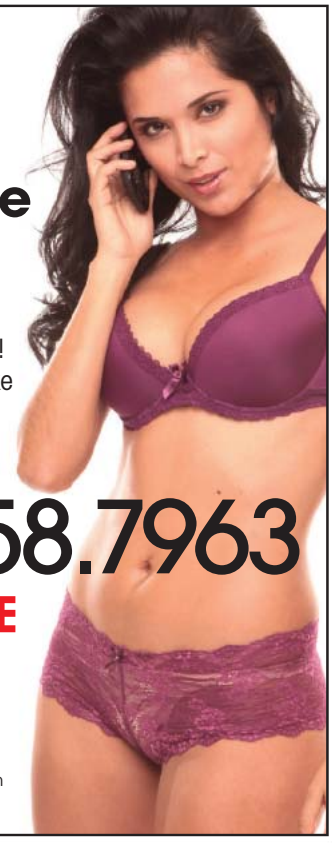

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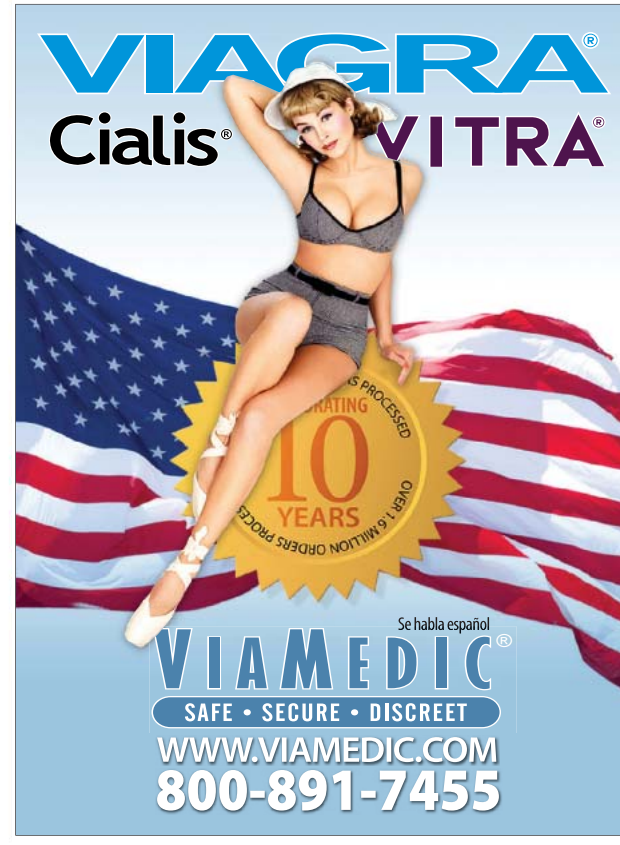

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For a Healthier, Stronger Climax and Overall Sexual Experience

The Scoop: vol. 39 Learning "the Ropes"

This month I received a letter from a regular contributor of mine. She tells of her "little secret" that has changed her love life and led to life-changing, mind-blowing sex with her partner.

Dear Charli,

I have read your pieces and I had to contribute! Last month my husband returned from a business trip and he was hotter and hornier than I have ever seen him. He had more desire and more energy, sexually, than he had ever had before. I mean ever! It was unbelievable. I slept for 12 hours.

During the sex, his orgasm seemed more intense than ever before, and, because his newfound vigor and passion excited me too, we both enjoyed it so much that we continued having sex another two times. He is 42! That isn't supposed to happen.

We have tried things in the past to spice up our love life and the results were "just alright." I knew that he had tried something and he was just trying to surprise me so I asked him what it was that made him, as he proudly put it, the king of the bedroom.

He explained that his partner had pulled out a bottle and gave it to him on the last night of their trip. The bottle is a natural supplement that the nutritionist told him would give him the most intense climax (not how he put it) he had ever had. My husband started taking the supplement every day and ***we continue to have amazing, mind-blowing sex.*** *He said it is a prostate supplement called ZedRex and that it helps with a lot of things (my favorite; incredible sex). Oddly enough, he also isn't waking up in the middle of the night to go to the bathroom. I didn't know the prostate was responsible for so much.*

Charli, have you heard of ZedRex, because I think your readers need to know about it!?! It has changed our sex life and when you're having amazing sex, everything else just seems to fall into place, relationship-wise.

Sincerely,
Michelle in Austin, TX

Michelle,

It just so happens that I have heard of it. A previous partner of mine had it and we too, had great sex. Unfortunately, our entire relationship was based on our incredible sex and there wasn't much substance otherwise. That was quite a two month run we had in the bedroom, though! Most women that have commented on this product have said that just one tablet each day gives their partner the "roping" effect that you described.

The place to get ZedRex is MyZedRex.com or call 888-4ZEDREX. I did a little research and ZedRex is an all-natural supplement and the **enhanced contractions and heightened orgasmic release are often referred to as "ropes"** because of the rope-like effect of release during climax. In other words, it just keeps "coming and coming," bringing a whole new meaning to the term simultaneous-climax. From my experience with my previous lover I know that every woman out there should talk to her partner about experiencing sex with ZedRex.

Call today or go on-line for your Tandem Special of ZedRex and ZedRex BFS (blood flow stimulator.) These two work extremely well on their own, but together they are incredible. **The ZedRex BFS is like "WHAM!" and the ZedRex is like "POW!,"** making them the best one-two punch available.

Charli

Charli is a freelance editor and writer in the categories of fitness, sex, and romance.

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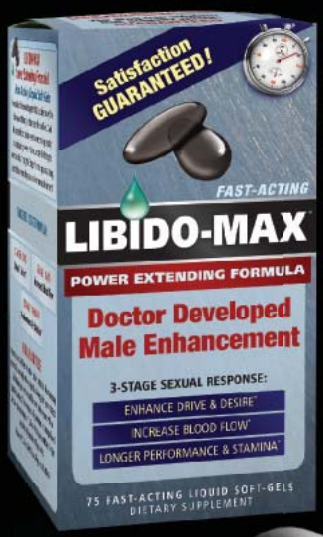

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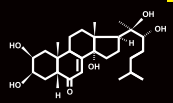

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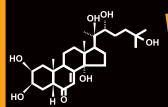

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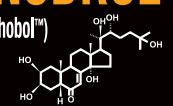

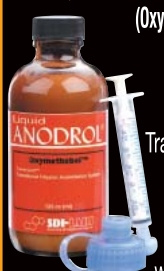

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Who says I'm going anywhere?

Will you be sent to heaven or hell?
Front-row seat in hell, I hope, in the same section as Elvis, George Carlin, and all the other fun people. (I hear you can smoke there.)

Which of your jokes earned you that front-row seat?
Every word I utter, according to right-wing Christian conservatives.

On *Rescue Me* your character has visions of his dead cousin. Will you come back from the grave to pay visits to your cousin Conan O'Brien?
No. I like Conan. And he's funny. If I come back as a ghost, I'm spending most of my time in the women's changing rooms at Barneys.

Any deathbed confessions?
Willem Dafoe and I are actually the same person.

You've declared yourself a "four-time Emmy loser." Do you think you'll be a winner before you pass away?
I doubt it. But I feel like a winner because I was over at Michael J. Fox's house once and stole one of his. I think it was a *Spin City* Emmy. Or maybe *Family Ties*. Either way, it's mine now. And I turned it into a giant cigarette lighter. Take that, Alex Keaton!

Name one thing you're glad you'll never have to do again on Earth.
Listen to the Bee Gees.

While you were alive, what did you spend the most money on?
My kids. Kids are incredibly expensive. But it pays off later when they are better educated, bigger, and better-looking than you. And find you incessantly boring and uncool.

You're known for drinking beer and smoking during your stand-up routines. Any other vices we should know about?
Way too many to enumerate, but let me put a few out there for ya: gluttony, sloth, envy, pride, wrath, anger ... you know, the fun stuff.

You wrote a book called *Why We Suck*. As you look back on your life, what do you think is the biggest reason you've sucked?
I suck, therefore I am. Have you seen *Operation Dumbo Drop*? *Two If by Sea*? *Demolition Man*?

What's your last meal?
Cheetah burger. Made out of the last actual cheetah on Earth. Or any other about-to-be-extinct animal. If I'm going out, I wanna take another species with me.

What are people saying over your casket?
"I thought he'd never shut the fuck up."

Got any last words?
If you had no enemies, you had no fun.

Season 6 of *Rescue Me* premieres June 29 at 10 P.M. EDT on FX.

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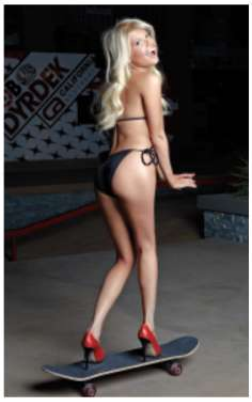
HOT 100

OURS IS TRULY A HISTORIC MOMENT. Factions crossed party lines and set aside deep-seated disagreements to produce a document sure to change the lives of every citizen of this great land. Yes, the 2010 Hot 100 has been signed into sexy law. While dissenters may ask questions like, "Where's Lindsay?" or, "What's an iJustine?" we are confident this work will stand as testament to our mad eye for hot chicks. Enjoy!

▲100 Lauren Storm

"I think girls are pretty, they smell nice, and they're soft," the stunning Chi-town native recently told us. Hey, Lauren, if you're ever interested in reliving your threesome from *I Love You, Beth Cooper,* count us in!



▲98 Chanel

The receptionist on *Rob Dyrdek's Fantasy Factory,* Chanel became an Internet celebrity thanks to a two-second shot of her thong. Google her now before she blows up into an IRL star.

97► iJustine

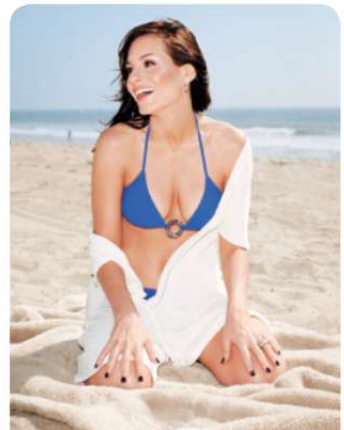
This super-perky (and smoking) blonde puts every waking moment of her life on the Internet for you to watch. Check out: ijustine.com.

▲99 Alison Brie

She plays a buttoned-up bookworm on *Community* and a repressed '60s housewife on *Mad Men*. Someone cast this talented babe as a crazed exhibitionist, stat!

▲96 Léa Seydoux

If you're not a French cineaste, chances are you didn't recognize this up-and-coming Parisian until she got your heart racing in *Robin Hood*. If you *are* a French cineaste, dig her sweet mise-en-scène.



▼95 Kristin Gustafson

Chosen by your votes, our 2009 Hometown Hotties champ proves democracy still works. At least when it comes to picking super-sexy ladies...Don't get us started on tort reform!

◄94 Kelly Ripa

What makes *Live! With Regis and Kelly* the right way to start your day? Hearing Reege complain and seeing what low-cut top sassy Kelly is wearing. Reverse those two things and you've tuned in, to a nightmare.

◄93 Kara DioGuardi

Our favorite *Idol* judge has written half the songs on your iPod, bared her bangin' bikini body on live television, and has the balls to tell Simon Cowell to shut the hell up. Thank you, Kara.

92

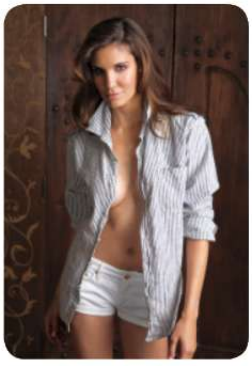
Helena Mattsson

The sultry Swede hit the big time with her role in *Iron Man 2*. But stardom didn't go to her head. "I read all my fan mail," she told us. Plus, she loves to bake "anything sweet." Perfection, thy name is Helena.

◀91
AMBER LANCASTER
A former *Maxim* Hometown Hotties finalist and current star of MTV's raunchy *The Hard Times of RJ Berger*, this seriously sexy Seattle native is about to become male America's newest crush.

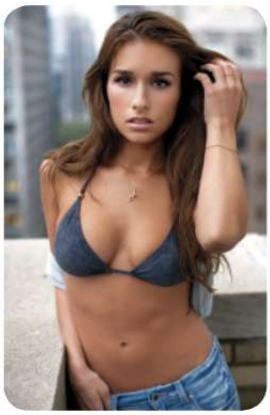
90▶
KEELEY HAZELL
This London-based model has men going so crazy over her ample assets, she's had her breasts cast in bronze. "I've got a pair sitting at home," she told us, "but one of the nipples always seems to fall off!"

▲89
KELLY BROOK
Actress, TV host, and, blessedly, lingerie model, the British-born and -bred Ms. Brook has had us under her spell for years with photographs that make us cherish our fully functioning corneas. Hooray for eyesight!

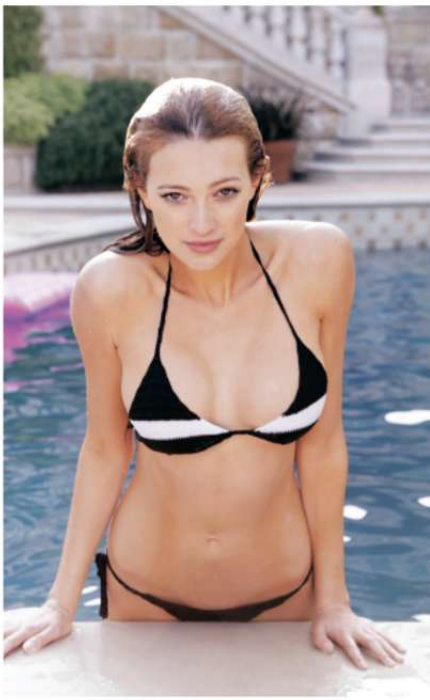


◀88
DANIELA RUAH
The sexiest new addition to *NCIS: Los Angeles*, Daniela is on a first-name basis with LL Cool J, and she knows how to shoot a 9 mm Sig. That might make her the coolest girl we know.

▼87
CHELSEA HANDLER
She's hot, funny, and works with a Mexican midget. These are just three reasons we're in love with this comic. With her talk show renewed through 2012 and three best-selling books, it's clear the rest of the country is, too.



◀86
JESSIE JAMES
No, we're not talking about the "Vanilla Gorilla." Since dropping her self-titled debut album last year, this country crooner has entertained the troops (with Kid Rock) and tweens (with the Jonas Brothers) alike. Stay tuned for her next album, in the works now!



HOT 100

85▶
KYLIE BISUTTI
Gentlemen, may we present the winner of the 2009 Victoria's Secret Model Search. And she's American! It's good to know that supermodels come from places that aren't Brazil.

▼84
ANNA PAQUIN
A recently professed bisexual, this Oscar winner is currently engaged to her *True Blood* costar, Stephen Moyer. We'd do anything to sink our teeth into her, but, alas, we are neither a bi-curious lady nor a vampiric British actor.

HOT FACT
PRETTY YOUNG THING ANNA WAS BORN IN 1982, THE YEAR *THRILLER* WAS RELEASED.

83

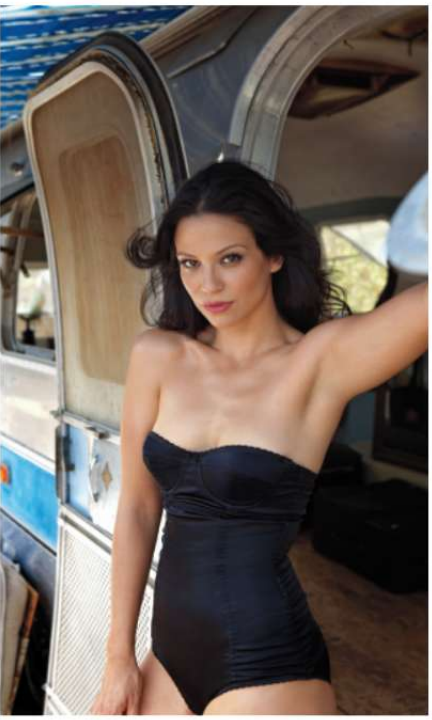
Danielle Panabaker

We've had our eye on this sizzling starlet since we saw her screaming her lungs out in two of the hottest recent horror remakes: *Friday the 13th* and *The Crazies*. Evidently, so did fright guru John Carpenter, who cast the beauty in his new fall flick, *The Ward*.

82

STACY KEIBLER

She wowed us during her WWE years and had us tuning in to *Dancing With the Stars*. Now she's taking over screens big and small with the indie flick *Dysfunctional Friends and a Funeral* and recent appearances on *How I Met Your Mother* and *Psych*.



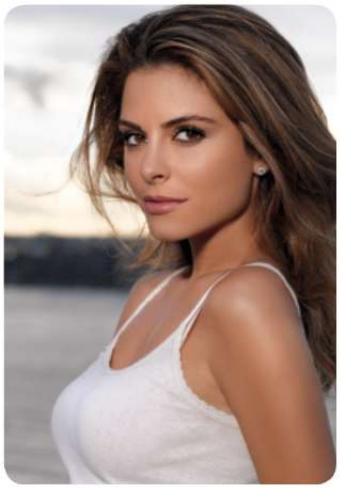
◀81 NAVI RAWAT

This SoCal stunner, who already makes our brains spin as a math professor on *Numb3rs*, also recently appeared on the twisted *FlashForward*. We can't wait to see what's next for this mind-bending beauty.

HOT 100

▼80 MARIA MENOUNOS

She may be the one asking the questions, but the truth is it's pretty hard to take our eyes off this sexy *Access Hollywood* correspondent. Come to think of it, didn't she score the first Obama family interview...?



▲79 REBECCA MADER

In Season 5 of *Lost*, something inexplicable happened: The stupid producers decided to kill off Charlotte, robbing the island (and our eyes) of the lovely Rebecca. Well, thanks to some magical forces, Charlotte made a surprise return from the dead for the final season. Now if only they'd bring back that polar bear...

78▶ EMMA ROBERTS

Her aunt Julia may have had her breakout role playing a prostitute, but Emma was last seen as a virgin deciding to wait in this year's *Valentine's Day*. At only 19, she has plenty of time to expand her résumé.

◀77 YVONNE STRAHOVSKI

This Aussie got our attention as a sexy CIA agent—and computer nerd's love interest—on *Chuck*, showing the world that geek can be chic. Thanks for the confidence boost, Yvonne!

76▶ KRISTIN CAVALLARI

Life can be hard even if you're rich and beautiful. That's why we supported Kristin's move to *The Hills* last year, and why we stand by her through every sexy catfight.

◀75 LILY ALLEN

This feisty Brit is as famous for her snarky lyrics as she is for her drunken antics (including a bitchfest with Elton John), but we'll happily be her designated driver any night!

▼74 NATALIE MORALES

Portraying an FBI agent on the new crime series *White Collar*, Natalie is one of the hottest ladies on cable. Watch her make a splash on the big screen this fall with roles in *Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps* and *Going the Distance*.

HOT FACT GOT A SERIF FETISH? NATALIE LOVES TO DESIGN HER OWN FONTS.

◀73 ZOOEY DESCHANEL

This *(500) Days of Summer* starlet's sultry voice, affinity for eyeliner, and ability to portray historical figures in *Funny or Die* videos make her the indie darling of our hearts.

HOT FACT
SHE MADE HER ACTING DEBUT IN A MCDONALD'S AD WHEN SHE WAS 10 YEARS OLD.

72▶ DANNEEL HARRIS

We just can't get enough of this former *Maxim* cover girl. Known to most as a *One Tree Hill* alum, Daneel can be seen next opposite fellow Hot 100 babe Leighton Meester in *The Roommate*.

▲68 EMMANUELLE CHRIQUI

She's Eric's on-again, off-again girlfriend Sloan on *Entourage*, best remembered for their on-screen threesome with Malin Akerman. Some tools have all the luck!

▼71 DAWN OLIVIERI

This *Heroes* hottie has appeared everywhere from *How I Met Your Mother* to *True Blood*. Up next is the aptly titled *Drop Dead Gorgeous*.

67▶ ANNALYNNE MCCORD

On the CW's *90210*, Anna-Lynne is so convincing as über-hot and bitchy teen queen Naomi Clark that she makes us wish we went to high school with her, so she could snicker at us with her popular friends and fill us with self-loathing when she saunters by in the cafeteria. Oh, to be young again!

HOT 100

▼66 PEYTON LIST

She's gone back in time for *Mad Men* and into the future on *FlashForward*, but no matter what decade she's in, this former ballerina and soap star remains smokin' hot.

▼69 MONICA KEENA

Armed with a killer bod, this gorgeous girl of horror took on evil in *Freddy vs. Jason*. Smart, sexy, and dangerous!

▲70 ODETTE YUSTMAN

After *Cloverfield*, we joined the rest of the world wondering who was that sexy brunette. See her next in *You Again*.

65

CHRISTIAN SERRATOS

One of the bevy of beauties produced by the *Twilight* series, Serratos recently posed nude for PETA. Hey, Christian, did we ever tell you we love seitan?

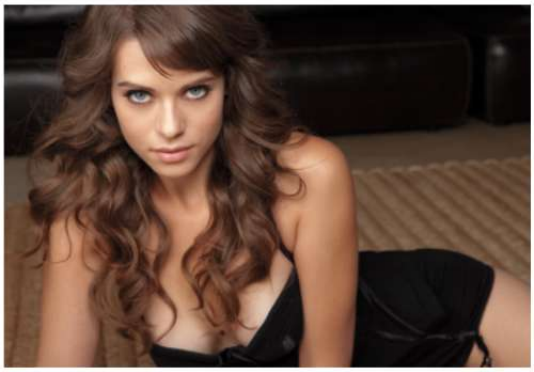
64

Camilla Belle

She recently attracted attention for briefly dating a Jonas Brother, but the actress has been on our radar since starring as a prehistoric hottie in the blockbuster *10,000 BC*. Fur pelts never looked so sexy!

◀ 63
Alessandra Ambrosio

If fellow Victoria's Secret model Gisele Bündchen proved anything, it's that there must be something sexy in the water of Brazil. While her engagement to some fashion dude is heartbreaking, it's good to know that Alessandra's hotness remains eternal.



▲ 62
Lyndsy Fonseca

There's no question why Lyndsy makes her Hot 100 debut this year: She starred as the object of affection for a pseudo-superhero in *KickAss* and wore a zebra-striped cat suit in *Hot Tub Time Machine*!

▲ 61
Naya Rivera

Glee's superhottie has us singing for joy every time she bounds onto the screen—especially when her lesbian love affair with Britanny is up for discussion. Who says this is a chick show?

◀ 60
Grace Park

Here's an interesting little tidbit of trivia for ya: This Canadian-raised *Battlestar Galactica* goddess began her sizzling career as a model. We know—shocking, isn't it?

HOT FACT
THIS OLYMPIAN IS A FIRM BELIEVER IN THE MORE THE MERRIER: SHE HAS FIVE PET COWS!

▲ 59
Lindsey Vonn

We sat through hours of curling this winter just to see this sexy alpine skier grab the gold. We're sure making our Hot 100 must be an equally thrilling accomplishment.

HOT 100

◀ 58
Erin Andrews

It's no surprise that ESPN's resident hottie has been crowned America's Sexiest Sportscaster—twice! This spring she stepped out of the sidelines and onto the dance floor on *Dancing With the Stars*. Anyone up for a rumba?

▼ 57
Gabrielle Union

It would seem that there'd be no higher peak to climb after booking your first acting gig on *Saved by the Bell*, but Ms. Union continues to rock us on *FlashForward*.

◀ 56
Ke$ha

She describes herself as a "walking good time," and with her debut album, *Animal*, topping the charts, pop's new It girl proves that all that glitters is gold.

HOT 100

55 ▶ Tricia Helfer

Since hanging up her infamous Number Six red dress for good when *Battlestar Galactica* closed shop, Tricia has been working on several big-screen projects and hosting kitten adoptions. Aw!

◀ 54 Britney Spears

Forgot about her? We didn't. *Forbes* magazine ranked her as its 13th most powerful celebrity in 2009. And power = sexy. Pop doesn't have a king anymore, but it still has a queen.

53 ▶ Laura Vandervoort

The Canadian-born cutie flew into our lives playing Supergirl on *Smallville,* and now we are treated to her portrayal of another out-of-this-world (literally) beauty named Lisa on ABC's hit *V.*

◀ 52 Kristen Bell

The *Veronica Mars* cutie has come a long way since her gumshoe days. Catch her as a burlesque dancer later this year in the aptly titled *Burlesque.*

51 ▶ Moon Bloodgood

She braved Christian Bale's tantrums on the set of *Terminator Salvation,* and now this ass-kicking action babe has five projects in the works. You go, Moon!

HOT FACT
ALICE'S REAL MOM AND DAD PLAYED HER PARENTS IN *SHE'S OUT OF MY LEAGUE.*

▲ 50 Alice Eve

With her breakout role as the perfect 10 in *She's Out of My League,* Alice is the latest British bombshell to land stateside. And what is this Oxford-educated beauty particularly proud of? "My humps!"

HOT 100

49 ▶ Emma Stone

This *Zombieland* vixen stole our hearts wielding chain saws and handguns. Catch her next as a promiscuous high schooler playing some naughty mind games in *Easy A,* in theaters this September.

▲ 48 Emmy Rossum

A classically trained opera singer, Emmy burst onto the big screen as a damsel in distress in *The Day After Tomorrow* and was most recently seen as the good girl gone bad in last year's racy *Dare.* Next up? *Dragonball 2: Reborn.*

47

SOFIA VERGARA

On the super-funny *Modern Family*, it is unclear if Sofia's character, Gloria, is a gold digger or if she is truly in love with Jay (a.k.a. Ed O'Neill, a.k.a. Al Bundy). Our take on the controversy? Who cares—she's hot!

46

Rachel Bilson

The cute-as-a-button and hot-as-an-oven Rachel Bilson makes us want to abandon everything, cue up some Death Cab for Cutie, write a comic book, and sweep the ex-*O.C.* stunner off her dainty feet. California, Californrrrn-ia!

▼45
JULIANNE HOUGH
Tired of strutting her stuff with random dudes on *Dancing With the Stars*, the blonde beauty is ready to bring her signature moves to the big screen. Cast in the upcoming *Footloose* remake, she's also set to appear in *Burlesque* this November.

▼44
STEPHANIE PRATT
Ever since she first appeared on *The Hills* in 2007, there's been no question who got the good genes in the Pratt family. With plans to launch her own lingerie line, this sexy little sister is striking out on her own.

▲43
JORDANA BREWSTER
She's in talks to reprise her role as Vin Diesel's sister in the next *Fast and Furious* flick. We're ready to renew our lovefest with the Panamanian-born fox. We're not scared of you, Diesel! (Yes, we are.)

HOT 100

HOT FACT
anna was named "STONETTE OF THE YEAR" BY *HIGH TIMES* IN 2007. WOW, MAN.

▲42
ANNA FARIS
This *Scary Movie* staple made watching parodies fun again. You can catch her in December's CGI/live-action version of... *Yogi Bear* or, if you're not seven, next year's *Young Americans*.

41▶
KATIE CASSIDY
Following dad David into acting, Katie achieved her own TV success (*Harper's Island*, *Melrose Place*) and recently starred as Freddy Krueger's newest prey in the *Nightmare on Elm Street* remake.

▲40
DANIA RAMIREZ
Fatal superpower or not, there's nothing that could keep us away from this *Heroes* babe. Catch her this season on *Entourage* or in *Brooklyn to Manhattan*, out later this year.

39▶
MALIN AKERMAN
With four movies lined up, Malin adds talented and hardworking to the Swede stereotypes of blonde, tall, and beautiful.

◀38
ANGELINA JOLIE
When she's not starring in sick action thrillers like next month's *Salt*, Angie serves as a UN Goodwill Ambassador. Now you'll understand why we've dubbed her Saint Angelina. You can commence worshiping now!

HOT FACT
THE BOMBSHELL FIRST MADE HEADS TURN AS A JUGGY DANCER ON *THE MAN SHOW*.

▲37
JOANNA KRUPA
"God created the body, and there's nothing wrong with showing it naked," this gorgeous model told us. Apart from pleasing the higher powers above, Joanna pleased TV viewers last year by working up a sweat on *The Superstars* and *Dancing With the Stars*.

36 ▶
RACHELLE LEAH
We watch the UFC for the Octagon Girls as much as for the sweaty man-grappling. And if there's one ring girl we'd love to submit to, it's Rachelle. After all, her diet plan includes "Swedish pancakes with butter." Ah, a lady after our own stomachs.

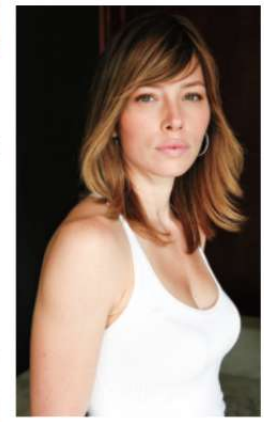
◀35
JENNIFER LOVE HEWITT
We can't blame you if you still have that poster from high school on the wall. J-Love continues to heat up the small screen on *Ghost Whisperer*, and she also wrote her first dating guide, *The Day I Shot Cupid*, which is this week's pick in our book club.

HOT 100

34 ▶
JESSICA ALBA
This feisty, Coldplay-loving gal made us laugh getting frisky with penguins in *Good Luck Chuck* and kept us glued to the screen as a dancer in *Sin City*. Catch her this winter in *Little Fockers*.

◀33
JANUARY JONES
Her first L.A. boyfriend may have doubted her acting chops, but, currently starring as the beautiful Betty Draper on the hit *Mad Men*, January has gleefully proved him wrong. (In your face, Ashton!)

32 ▶
JESSICA BIEL
This all-American girl next door jumped from steaming up your living room on *7th Heaven* to enjoying her vibrating BlackBerry in *Valentine's Day*. Look for her in the *A-Team* remake, out this month.



◀31
TAYLOR SWIFT
Pardon us while we light a candle and let Taylor's country-pop tunes fill the air as we contemplate her beauty and pretend that her lovesick, confessional lyrics were penned for us and not that pretty boy Joe Jonas.

30 ▶
HAYDEN PANETTIERRE
After experimenting with her roommate earlier this season on *Heroes*, Hayden is set to add a new title to her résumé: TV producer. *HMS* (Harvard Medical School) is in the pilot process for the CW. Let's just hope she'll be starring!

29

ASHLEY GREENE

What has this bewitching babe learned from playing vampire Alice Cullen in the *Twilight* series? "Take the best sex you've ever had and multiply it by 100, and that's vampire sex."

HOT 100

28 ▶ KALEY CUOCO

The Big Bang Theory's self-proclaimed guy's girl loves to eat, drink, and play Ping-Pong in skimpy outfits: "I've got my boobs hanging out and legs showing. It's won me a lot of matches."

◀ 27 HILARY DUFF

Our best excuse for watching *Gossip Girl*? The casting of curvy ex-Disneyite Hilary! Also catch her as a bankrob-bing lassie in the biopic *The Story of Bonnie & Clyde.*

26 ▶ ELIZA DUSHKU

For two years she kept our hearts pounding as ass-kicking Echo on the sci-fi series *Dollhouse.* Alas, all good things come to an end...But we'll happily rewatch our *Bring It On* DVD as we await her on-screen return.

◀ 25 DANICA PATRICK

Nothing pumps our pedals like a girl who can work a gearbox. Danica's third-place finish at the 2009 Indy 500 was the best ever for a woman. And she's attractive, you say? Sorry, we need to go change our oil again.

24 ▶ NICOLE SCHERZINGER

Before waltzing onto *Dancing With the Stars*, the Pussycat Doll enjoyed a string of top 10 hits with her group and collaborated with some of music's biggest names.

23 ▶ ARIANNY CELESTE

This sexy UFC Octagon Girl loves her fans so much, she's even going to the prom with one of them! Damn it, why didn't we ask her?

◀ 22 MILA KUNIS

Given Mila's sexy turns in everything from *Forgetting Sarah Marshall* to *The Book of Eli,* the fact that the hottest thing out of the Ukraine since Chernobyl is dating Macaulay Culkin makes us want to slap our cheeks like that adorable kid from *Home Alone.*

HOT FACT MILLA LOVES BEING A DREAM GIRL FOR GEEKS. THAT'S YOU, POINDEXTER!

21 ▶ MILLA JOVOVICH

When this Ukrainian babe posed for us last year, she gave our readers exactly what they wanted: "I know it's all about my body." Milla returns as video-game vixen Alice this fall in *Resident Evil: Afterlife.*

20

OLIVIA WILDE

Last year Olivia was simultaneously worshiped as the Hot 100's No. 1 and the Princess of Sodom in *Year One*. Now, in addition to obsessing over her on *House, M.D.*, we're eagerly awaiting her big-screen return in *Tron Legacy*.

19

Bar Refaeli

Twenty-five years ago, in the Promised Land, God decided to knock one out of the park. Bar Refaeli, the Israeli supermodel whose piercing eyes and rocking bod have landed her on the cover of *Sports Illustrated*'s 2009 Swimsuit Issue, got called out this year for dodging her country's mandatory draft. Just FYI, Bar, in America we'd never risk such a national treasure.

18 ▶ Christina Aguilera

After a few years lying low, she is hitting the airwaves with a new album, new sound, and the same incredible body.

◀ 17 Leighton Meester

As *Gossip Girl*'s resident mean girl Blair Waldorf, she's been steaming up the CW since 2007. Leighton becomes a double threat this year with the release of her debut album, *Love Is a Drug*.

▲ 16 Selita Ebanks

As far as supermodels go, this Victoria's Secret Angel and *Celebrity Apprentice* star is tops in our book. It's a shame she didn't follow in her father's police-captain footsteps... We'd let her arrest us any day.

15 ▶ Amanda Bynes

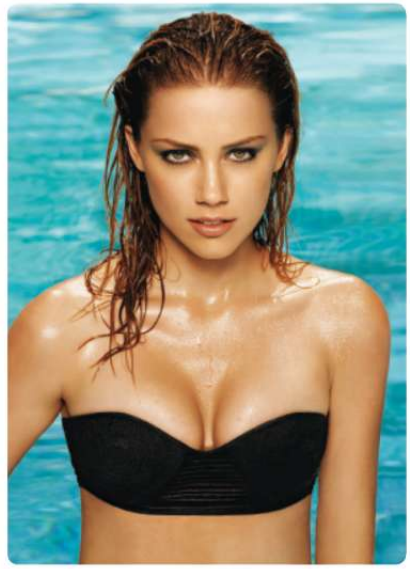
Christopher Walken once told the Nickelodeon princess that she reminded him of a *Playboy* Bunny he once knew. Indeed, Amanda is all grown up and will be back on the big screen this year in *Easy A*.

◀ 14 Scarlett Johansson

The cuddly co-star of *Iron Man 2* has signed on to appear in *The Avengers*. Nerds of the world, rejoice: You have a reason to keep living until the summer of 2012.

▼ 13 Amber Heard

With five films set to come out this year, Amber has become one of the hottest leading ladies in Hollywood. Her favorite genre? "I love making horror films. Call it lust...I just can't seem to get enough."



▲ 12 Audrina Patridge

When the Cali native isn't causing drama on *The Hills*, she's being hit on by creepy men (not us). "This guy once told me, 'If you were a door, I would slam you all night long.' I just laughed it off."

HOT 100

◀ 11 Eva Mendes

She's been on our list for years, and it doesn't look like she's leaving anytime soon. Apart from smoldering up Calvin Klein ads earlier this year, Eva is the lone hottie opposite Will Ferrell and Mark Wahlberg in August's *The Other Guys*.

HOT FACT
Eva admits to loving Jack-in-the-Box's tacos, fries, and Oreo milkshakes.

10

marisa miller

All hail the return of the great American supermodel! Marisa's bragging rights include strutting the catwalk as a Victoria's Secret Angel, posing topless for an *SI* Swimsuit Issue cover, and, most importantly, claiming the No. 1 spot on our 2008 Hot 100.

9

KIM KARDASHIAN

If you're embarrassed about being caught watching *Keeping Up With the Kardashians* on E!, here's a tip: Keep your eyes glued to Kim's Twitter page, where the recently single reality goddess is known to post sexy bikini shots of herself. Thank you, modern technology!

8

OLIVIA MUNN

The host of G4's *Attack of the Show!* is a self-declared nerd who can take apart a PC and put it back together again. She sure doesn't look like any tech geeks we know (sorry, IT). Check her out now in *Iron Man 2* or later this year in Broken Lizard's *Freeloaders*.

7

ELISABETTA CANALIS

Whether or not she's still George Clooney's girlfriend, this *bellissima* Italian will always have a place in our hearts. Watch her adorably accented American debut this summer on TNT's *Leverage*. *Prego!*

6

RIHANNA

This Barbadian beauty hit a rough patch last year, but after her fourth album, *Rated R*, went platinum, she proved she can fight back, hard. Please don't stop the music.

5

megan fox

To paraphrase Tina Fey, even the thinking man wants to do Megan Fox. A sex symbol for the ages, Megan's sultry looks hit every red-blooded guy right in the, er, gut. Thankfully, she's got five films coming up, so get thee to the theater and ogle.

4

BLAKE LIVELY

Gossip Girl's breakout bombshell was destined for stardom. Born in L.A., she started acting at 11 and grew into the ultimate California girl. Look for her to light up the big screen this year in *The Town,* and as the Green Lantern's gal pal in 2011.

3

ZOË SALDANA

The scorchingly sexy *Avatar* star had dudes the world over learning to say, "Damn, she's hot," in perfect Na'vi. Until the 31-year-old Jersey native fires our nerd-loins again in the upcoming *Star Trek* sequel, catch her next month in *Takers*.

2

Brooklyn Decker

This fiery Victoria's Secret model makes even our female staff stop and stare. We think it's time to crown a new world supermodel. Sorry, Gisele! Let's go, Brooklyn!

Katy Perry

And so it is written: Katy Perry is the hottest woman alive. Because she's sexy. Because she's talented. But more important, because she's the best friend you suddenly realize you've loved your whole life. The rad chick who taught you how to skateboard and whistle and also looks unbelievable in a bikini. Katy was probably always a little cooler but didn't hold that against you. She took you to the party. And, yeah, she kissed a girl. Money, looks, and luck might get you a date with a No. 4, 39, or 100. A number one? She dates you.

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